A Gift to a Wife

This book deals with people's domestic life. Before reading the book, make du'aa to Allaah I saying, "O Allaah ! It may be that this subject pertains to a woman's life as a Muslim woman or as a wife or as a mother, or it may even be something that could terminate disputes. While reading the book, one should make du'aa to Allaah I that He creates love and affection between all married Muslim couples and that He makes them all a means of rearing pious children. May Allaah I reward you all tremendously.

This book cites the sterling examples of six women during the time of Rasulullaah ρ.
Obeying the husband
True love for the husband
Honouring and serving the husband
Being loyal towards the husband
Making one's husband a Muslim or a pious person
Qualities of a good wife
How to remain the beloved of one's husband
Bad habits of women and ways of losing them
The rights that women owe to their husbands
Advice for the married couple
Formulas to avoid disputes between a bride and her husband, mother-in-law and sisters-in-law, which often lead to premature separations and bitter feelings between entire families

Save your Husbands from Sin

As a result, even if they are physically close to the husband, it is as if they are not there at all. Allaah I has made the wife a garment of her husband and vice versa. Just as clothing wraps a person, a woman should beautify herself so that she wraps her husband's attention exclusively for herself. Similarly, a married man's chastity is well protected in public because he has a wife. Now if a woman has to be dressed like a street-sweeper and is careless about personal hygiene, her husband will have no interest in her. Is the cure for this situation not that a woman should keep herself attractive so that her husband's eyes stay riveted to her? If a wife neglects this, she will soon find her husband enamoured with the parading masqueraders adorned with the artificial beauty and false glitter all manufactured by beauty parlours. The evil effect of this will even distract him from remembering Allaah I. It should be borne in

mind that if they resort to impermissible means of beautification, they will drive their husbands further from them.

When the wife takes the time and effort to beautify herself, she will be saving her husband from major sins. Many women complain to the Ulema and Muftis that their husbands do not love them and have no feelings for them. If a wife fails to charm her husband, the consequences will be devastating. This piece of advice to women is given with conviction based on the experiences of thousands of women. When a woman fails to maintain a high standard of personal hygiene and fails to adorn herself for her husband, the couple may face serious problems. May Allaah I grant all Muslim women the ability to take heed and to practise.

It is anticipated that if a woman in any age practises the teachings taught in these advices, Insha Allaah her home will be like a garden of Jannah.

We have dedicated these advices to every Muslim woman in the world. My beloved daughter! Lead a life of contentment. My beloved daughter! My beloved daughter! My beloved daughter! My beloved daughter! My beloved daughter! Guard this advice with your life. Aameen.
We present to our Muslim sisters the lives of six exemplary Muslim ladies from the best era who displayed excellent qualities as wives and lifelong friends to their husbands. Disputes between couples, bickering between daughters-and-mothers-in-law, jealousy between sisters-in-law and couples failing to fulfil the rights of each other have become commonplace nowadays. Problems with mothers-in-law and sisters-in-law (husband's sisters as well as husband's brothers' wives)
Unreasonable mothers-in-law
Ill-tempered husbands
Fanning the flames of such squabbles are the insolent lessons that women learn from their mothers and other women coupled with the solidarity that mothers-and-sisters-in-law display in these situations.

It has therefore been my aspiration for some time to compile for the Muslim wife a book containing advices that would ensure that such disputed never arise.
By Allaah 's grace, I also managed to read the book of Shaykh Muhammad Ibraheem Saleem, titled "An Nisaa Howla Rasulullaah ρ". May Allaah I also end all domestic disputes because this is the secret formula for success and for love to develop between couples.

An Offering of Thanks to Rasulullaah ρ from all Muslim Women

We invoke the special mercies of Allaah I and peace on you, O Rasulullaah ρ. You have given us a share in inheritance as mothers, sisters, daughters and wives. You said, "Fear Allaah I with regard to your women because you acquired them with Allaah 's name." The Six Exemplary Women

Ummul Mu'mineen Hadhrat Khadeeja bint Khuwaylid (R.A).

Ummul Mu'mineen Hadhrat Sowda bint Zam'ah (R.A).

Hadhrat Zaynab bint Muhammad ε bin Abdillaah (R.A).

Hadhrat Ruqayya bint Muhammad ε bin Abdillaah (R.A).

Why Women were Created

Hadhrat Aadam υ lived in Jannah where he enjoyed every type of bounty and he was immersed in Allaah 's mercy at every step. Without a wife, man's life is empty and shapeless. A wife blows enthusiasm and colour into his life.

A wife is the true beauty of a man's life and his primary source of comfort and solace. Allaah I has given women beauty and the ability to calm the roughest waters. A wife cheers up her depressed husband and can turn hell into heaven. In fact, every king, minister, saint and even Allaah 's beloved Rasul ρ called woman a mother. Just as the world would be deserted without people, a house without a pious woman would be deserted and fraught with problems. A good woman is the queen of her home and can command her husband to do anything within the ambit of the Shari'ah. May Allaah I make you pious and the delight of your husband's eyes. Aameen.

With concise words, the Qur'aan has explained the purpose of woman's creation. If a wife fulfils this purpose, her husband will be the most fortunate man in the world. Allaah I says in the opening verse of Surah Nisaa (Surah 4) that He had created man's spouse from himself. [Surah 30, verse 21]

The woman is therefore the cradle of comfort for her husband.
May Allaah I make every bride the source of comfort for her husband. Aameen.

The Du'aa of Allaah 's Sincere Bondsmen

Describing the qualities of His chosen bondsmen, Allaah I says that they always make du'aa for good wives and children. Quoting their du'aa in Surah Furqaan, Allaah I says, ***"Those who say, 'O our Rabb!*** It is obvious that if a woman is not good-natured and pleasant, the couple cannot live happily together. A woman can be the coolness of a man's eyes only when she is good and pious. A man is therefore extremely fortunate if he finds a wife who is well-groomed, compassionate and intelligent. Insha Allaah , if a bride or wife reads this book and sincerely practises the advices mentioned, the couple will quickly become the coolness of each other's eyes.

If a wife inculcates within herself the qualities which Islaam teaches, she will soon conquer her husband's heart and he will attain the contentment of heart that a good wife should provide for him. The Pious Wife

Neither was Hadhrat Abu Bakr τ nor Hadhrat Umar τ nor Hadhrat Uthmaan τ nor Hadhrat Ali τ nor any perform the other Sahabah ψ present there. The good fortune belonged to none other than Rasulullaah ρ's beloved wife Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A).

We will present to you the lives of some wives who reached tremendous heights and who engraved their undying love in the hearts of their husbands. We shall describe

the excellent qualities of these women and discuss how they became the pride of their husband's lives and how they made their children worthy of entering Jannah.

If you inculcate these qualities in your life, you will also become the light of your husband's eyes and the most precious thing in the world for him. Islaam's Standard of Judging a Good Wife

The most truthful Rasulullaah ρ has mentioned, "If I were to command anyone to prostrate to another (human), I would have certainly commanded a wife to prostrate to her husband." Dear wives! It will be seen that obedience to Allaah I, fear for Allaah I can be rolled into one person together with obedience to the husband.

May Allaah I make every Muslim wife the most precious thing in the world to her husband and may He make every Muslim husband the best of people who behaves excellently towards his wife. Aameen.

Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A)

When Rasulullaah ρ was being harassed by the Quraysh, only two women supported him. They were Hadhrat Khadeeja bint Khuwaylid (R.A) and Hadhrat Faatima bint Asad (R.A). Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) Comforts Rasulullaah ρ

Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) was always there to console Rasulullaah ρ whenever the Mushrikeen harassed him. If every Muslim woman could console her husband so effectively, he will always refer to her when he experiences any anxiety, which is a prized certificate of merit for any woman.

Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) said to Rasulullaah ρ, "Allaah I shall never disgrace you and never forsake you because you maintain good family relations, assist people, provide for the needy and destitute, entertain guests and support all good causes." All thanks are for Allaah I Who gave us the perfect example of a woman like Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) to follow. Although a woman cannot be a Nabi, Allaah I has made the means for a woman's way of life to be emulated if she so desired it. The lives of all the wives of Rasulullaah ρ provide women with perfect examples and lessons for leading their lives. It is actually possible for a woman to develop all these qualities in her husband. If a wife does not complain to her husband about his parents, his brothers, his sisters and other relatives and if she encourages him to associate with them cordially and to overlook their faults, she will be making him a person who maintains good family relations. Allaah I has also given the wife the ability to purge her husband's heart of any enmity and ill feelings he may have towards another family member.
With love and understanding, a wife may explain to her husband that if he does not maintain good relations with his family, it would be very difficult if not impossible for her and their children to foster good relations with them. If the husband is the eldest brother, she may tell him that because he enjoys the status of the father, it is unbecoming of him to get upset about trivial matters as women do.
If one door of sustenance seems to be closed, Allaah I will open another. Allaah I will soon grant what is best in this world. A wife can also influence her husband to practise the second Sunnah mentioned above viz. assisting others. A wife may also

encourage her husband to employ the unemployed or to assist in finding them employment. When the husband brings a guest home, the wife should prepare to the best of her ability, giving preference to the guest over herself. Although every guest attracts blessing to the home, pious people bring untold good and blessings to the home. If one's husband is not accustomed to bringing guests home, one should encourage him to do so. One should also feed those in Allaah 's path. Everything should be done to please Allaah I. One should serve whatever one can afford and whatever can be easily prepared so that Allaah I should be pleased, irrespective of what people think.

We make du'aa to Allaah I makes every Muslim wife a splendid flower in the flourishing garden of the Deen of Hadhrat Muhammad ε through the sterling example of Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A).
Aameen.

Sacrificing One's Wealth for One's Husband

Describing the qualities of Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A), Rasulullaah ρ said, "she gave me financial assistance when people denied me wealth." It is common knowledge that people love their wealth. If one's husband requires one's financial assistance for any necessity of Deen or for some permissible worldly need, one should regard giving assistance as an honour. In fact, spending one's wealth or jewellery on one's husband when needed will win his heart and earn one tremendous rewards. If a woman's husband spends her wealth to spread Deen and to ensure that the orders of Allaah I and the teachings of Rasulullaah ρ are practised throughout the globe, one will share a most elevated platform with Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A). Insha Allaah , when Allaah I will raise the wives of Ambiya (A.S) on the Day of Qiyaamah and reward them for assisting their husbands in propagating the belief of Tauheed and for eradicating kufr and shirk, the Muslim wife who spent her wealth for her husband's Deeni activities will also be rewarded with them. She will be rewarded with all these women who boosted the spirits of their husbands who in turn sacrificed their possessions and their faculties so that Allaah I's Deen reigns supreme on earth. Needless to say, it is also necessary for such a woman to lead a pious life reminiscent of the lives of all these women.

A wife has to be prepared to sacrifice everything for her husband, a quality which Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) displayed on so many occasions. It is necessary for every Muslim woman to display the same kind of selflessness for her husband and to spend whatever she can with love and affection. If you need my life, it is at your disposal
And if you need anything that may be more valuable than my life,
When treated in this manner with love, together with du'aas after every Fardh salaah, even the most ill tempered and ungrateful husband will be conquered. Return to fill my home just one more time"

Advising the Husband Correctly

Another responsibility of the Muslim wife is to influence her husband to consult with her in all matters, whether religious or otherwise. A husband should never think that he may dictate matters because he is in a position of authority.

Allaah I says about this in Surah Baqara[1], ***"If the couple decide to wean the child by mutual consent and consultation, there shall be no sin upon either of them."*** Rasulullaah ρ has mentioned[2], "Consult with your women concerning your daughters." This hadith enjoins fathers to consult with their wives concerning the marriage of their daughters.

The Seerah (biography) of Rasulullaah ρ written by Ibn Hishaam (A.R) describes Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) as a woman who "was a true advisor to Rasulullaah ρ in the matters of Deen."
When Rasulullaah ρ consulted his wife Hadhrat Ummu Salma (R.A) about the issue, she advised Rasulullaah ρ that he should do it first and that the Sahabah ψ would soon follow his example.
Today's women are also required to sometimes advise their husbands on Deeni issues like their pious predecessors. Some people are of the opinion that women should not be consulted when taking decisions. Ultimately, it is the husband who takes the decisions. What his wife says shall be her opinion.

Making Sacrifices for the Husband

When faced with any domestic crisis, the wife should bear with her husband and stand with him. The wife should never remind the husband that something would not have happened if he acted on her advice. Let alone a Muslim wife, such behaviour is unbecoming of even a Kaafir wife. Everything happens by Allaah 's command. Allaah I says in the Surah Taubah[3], ***"Tell them, 'Only what Allaah had ordained for us will affect us.*** Allaah I is All Knowing and will never abandon one in distress.
The wife should be especially patient when her husband earns less because he is serving the Deen or engaged in some Halaal occupation.
May Allaah I reward Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) abundantly on our behalf for the tremendous sacrifices she made for the spread of Islaam.

Serving the Husband

Although Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) was an influential, well-established and wealthy woman of the Quraysh, she personally served Rasulullaah ρ. A narration of Bukhari mentions that Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) was once serving something to Rasulullaah ρ in a dish when Hadhrat Jibra'eel (A.S) came and informed Rasulullaah ρ that Allaah I had sent Salaams (greetings of peace) to her. Rasulullaah ρ said, "O Khadeeja! Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) replied, "Allaah I is Himself the Giver of peace, all peace if from Him and peace be to Hadhrat Jibra'eel (A.S) as well."

This narration shows the elevated status of Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) because Allaah I Himself send greetings to her. The lives of the wives of Rasulullaah ρ are recorded for Muslim women of every age to emulate. The manner in which they served Rasulullaah ρ is a lesson for every Muslim wife so that every woman can earn the same rewards. Although we are presently discussing Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A), it is appropriate to mention a bit of the life of Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) because the discussion revolves around serving one's husband.

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[1] Surah 2, verse 233.
[2] Ahmad and Abu Dawood Pg. 285.
[3] Surah 9, verse 51.

When Rasulullaah ρ asked Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) to serve some food, she served something that she had already cooked. When a woman does this with the intention of fulfilling her husband's rights and pleasing Allaah I, her service will be regarded as Ibaadah. Allaah I did not send women to this world only to tend to domestic chores. It is therefore important for every Muslim wife to spend as little time as possible in cooking and to devote the majority of her time to Ibaadah, Dhikr, learning and teaching Deen and propagating Deen for Allaah 's pleasure.

Obeying the Husband Completely

Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) was such an obedient wife that even before the five daily salaah were made obligatory , she used to perform optional salaah with Rasulullaah ρ. The historian Ibn Sa'd (A.R) writes, "Rasulullaah ρ and Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) secretly performed salaah for a long time."

Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) had cast herself into the mould of her husband ρ. Dear sister! If you also cast yourselves in the mould of Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) and obey every instruction of your husband when his instructions conform with the Shari'ah, Allaah I will be extremely pleased with you. When one does this, one will find that just as Allaah I sent greetings of peace to Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A), Allaah I bless one's home with peace and comfort. As a result of this peace, the children will live in harmony and an atmosphere of love will exude from the home. If one's husband performs Tahajjud and other Nafl salaahs, one should make an effort to do so as well. One should never think that one's responsibilities are restricted to managing the home and rearing the children. Teach them Allaah I's names, make them recite Qur'aan daily and fix a time for making du'aa daily.

If one's husband is not inclined towards Ibaadah, one should make du'aa to Allaah I to make him pious and also consult with one's seniors so that they may advise one how to influence him. Some Ahadeeth Concerning Obeying the Husband and Fulfilling his Rights

The following Ahadeeth make it clear that it is extremely important for a wife to obey the instructions of her husband. Also make du'aa to Allaah I to assist one in practising.

Rasulullaah ρ said, "The woman who performs her five daily salaah, who fasts during Ramadhaan, who protects her chastity and who obeys her husband has the choice of entering Jannah from whichever door she pleases." Irrespective of what a woman looks like in this world, if she performs her salaah, fasts during Ramadhaan, safeguards her chastity and obeys her husband, she will be more beautiful and honoured than the damsels of Jannah.

Rasulullaah ρ told her that the Mu'min wives of this world will be made more beautiful than the "Hoor Een". When she asked the reason for this, Rasulullaah ρ replied, "Because of their salaah, their fasting and their Ibaadah, Allaah I shall cover their faces with Noor (celestial light)." Tabraani has narrated that some women during the time of Rasulullaah ρ sent one of them to pose a question to Rasulullaah ρ. When the lady arrived, she said, "O Rasulullaah ρ! I have been sent on behalf of the other women. Rasulullaah ρ replied, "Tell every woman you meet that when a woman obeys her husband and acknowledges the rights of her husband, her reward will equal that of her husband. If a woman learns to obey all her husband's lawful

instructions, she will attain the reward of enduring hunger, thirst, injuries, illness and even martyrdom although she has not left her home. When a woman obeys her husband, she will be saving the family from ruination and her husband will have true love for her in his heart. Rasulullaah ρ has mentioned that a woman will enter Jannah if she passes away when her husband is pleased with her. Rasulullaah ρ said, "If I were to command anyone to prostrate to another, I would have commanded wives to prostrate to their husbands. Tirmidhi (Vol. 1 Pg. 219) reports that Rasulullaah ρ said, "If a husband calls his wife to bed, she should respond even if she is busy at the stove." According to another Hadith, the angels curse the wife who does not respond when her husband calls her to bed and he spends the night angry with her. [Muslim Vol. 2 Pg. 1059]

Rasulullaah ρ said that when a woman troubles her husband, his wife in the Hereafter says to her, "Woe to you! Rasulullaah ρ said that there are three categories of people whose salaah and every good act is not accepted. Someone asked, "O Rasulullaah ρ! Who is the best woman?" Rasulullaah ρ replied, "The woman who pleases her husband when he sees her, who obeys him when he speaks to her and who does not betray him with regard to her chastity and his wealth."

"A good wife gives her all for her husband. Her happiness is when her husband is happy. Listen well O my innocent daughter! Dear daughter! An Obedient Wife

Here was a woman whose father, grandfather, brother and husband were all kings. After the demise of her husband, her brother Yazeed became king. He told his sister that he could return her jewellery to her if she pleased. May Allaah I make all Muslim wives loyal and obedient to the husbands.
Aameen.

The Demise of Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A)

Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) remained in Rasulullaah ρ's wedlock for twenty-five years. The appointed time for a soul to return to Allaah I is when it has perfected itself. "Upon your departure, it appeared as if time would be thrown into chaos

Du'aa

"O Allaah I! Make our girls and women like Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A). O Allaah I! O Allaah I!
Aameen."

Also bless my daughters, sisters and all Muslim women with the same sterling qualities. Aameen."

If Allaah I accepts this du'aa, one will be the most fortunate person both in terms of this world and in terms of the Hereafter. Hadhrat Ummu Salma (R.A) has narrated that she heard Rasulullaah ρ say that a woman will enter Jannah if she passes away when her husband is pleased with her. Can a woman have any desire greater than that she should be Allaah I's guest in Jannah? Allaah I will then assist one every step of the way.

When a woman fulfils her responsibilities, her husband will automatically discharge his. The advices to men have been published in a separate book titled "Gift to a Husband".

Life with one's in-laws can really be difficult. The husband's affection towards his wife often seems to cause hurt to his sisters for no good reason whatsoever. The Ummah has been shown the examples of exemplary wives like Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) and Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A). Keeping their lives in mind, every Muslim wife should also not forget the words of Rasulullaah ρ when he said that nothing can stop her from Jannah if she passes away when her husband is pleased with her. May Allaah I save every Muslim woman from the bane of a temperamental husband and inconsiderate mothers-and-sisters-in-law. Aameen.

We will now discuss the exemplary life of Rasulullaah ρ's second wife Hadhrat Sauda bint Zam'ah (R.A). Before reading, one should make du'aa to Allaah I to make one like her.
Aameen.

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Hadhrat Sauda bint Zam'ah (R.A)

After Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) passed away, Hadhrat Khowla bint Hakeem (R.A) the wife of Hadhrat Uthmaan bin Madh'oon τ asked Rasulullaah ρ whether he needed another wife. Rasulullaah ρ told her that Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) always tended to the children and the house. Hadhrat Khowla bint Hakeem realised from this that Rasulullaah ρ certainly needed a wife to tend to these matters. **NOTE:** Every woman who is a co-wife should bear in mind that she will receive from her husband only that which is predestined for her. Similarly, what was not destined for her shall never reach her irrespective of the number of co-wives she shares her husband with. She will receive whatever she is receiving even if she were the only wife. Of course, if the husband behaves unjustly towards the wife, he will be answerable to Allaah I. Hadhrat Sauda bint Zam'ah (R.A) awarded her turn to Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) because she understood that Rasulullaah ρ had great love for Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A).
She therefore pleased her husband and became worthy of the glad tidings of Jannah that are promised for the woman whose husband is pleased with her.

Sincerely Obeying the Husband

After performing the Farewell Hajj, Rasulullaah ρ instructed his wives saying, "Stay within your homes after my demise." I am now staying at home in conformance with the instruction of Rasulullaah ρ." The condition of women today is indeed a far cry from that of the women during the time of Rasulullaah ρ. Nowadays, let alone not

obeying the husband who prevents his wife from something virtuous (like Hajj or Umrah), many women do not even obey their husbands who tell them not to carry out acts that are sinful.

When the husband issues and instruction to his wife, she will earn the reward of Ibaadah by obeying his instruction. When a woman keeps this in mind, it will be easy for her to obey any instruction that her husband issues.

If one's husband prevents one from carrying out any of one's permissible desires, one should make du'aa to Allaah I saying, "O Allaah I! Insha Allaah , Allaah I will certainly soften his heart and if your desire cannot be adequately realised, he will ensure that he pleases you in some other way.

If only women will understand this. Everything will have flavour for the husband as well as for the children. The first quality of a good wife that Rasulullaah ρ mentioned is that she is obedient to her husband when he instructs her to do something. May Allaah I make all women obedient to their husbands so that these men can have Jannah in both worlds.
Aameen.

Hadhrat Umar τ once sent a bag to Hadhrat Sauda bint Zam'ah (R.A).
One then knows that whatever is being spent in Allaah I's way shall certainly be rewarded in the Hereafter and will please Allaah I tremendously.

Even if the husband brings four cups into the house, it should be made clear whether they are a gift to his wife or whether they belong to him.

One should also have the conviction that if one ever needs such an item in future, Allaah I will provide it after one performs two Rakaahs of salaah.

The Testimony of a Co-Wife

It is a tremendous accolade to a woman when her co-wife praises her. May Allaah I instil the qualities of Hadhrat Sauda bint Zam'ah (R.A) in every Muslim woman.
Aameen.

The wives of Rasulullaah ρ once asked him which of them would pass away first.

Hadhrat Zaynab bint Muhammad ε (R.A)

A Loyal Wife

Hadhrat Zaynab (R.A) was the eldest daughter of Rasulullaah ρ. The couple lived happily together. Separation from her Husband

Addressing her husband, Hadhrat Zaynab (R.A) said, "Think awhile. Although the Sahabiyaat[4] had great love for the husbands, they did not compromise on their Islamic beliefs. Remaining staunch Muslims, their love for their husbands made them

[4] The word Sahabiyaat is the plural of the word Sahabiyyah, referring to Muslim women who saw Rasulullaah ρ and who passed away as Muslims.

try their best to make their husbands Muslims. It was because of this love and concern that Allaah I reunited these couples once again.

When Hadhrat Zaynab (R.A)'s husband Hadhrat Abul Aas τ was captured by the Muslims during the Battle of Badr and a delegation left for Madinah to ransom the captives, Hadhrat Zaynab (R.A) sent her cherished necklace with them to free her husband. Although Hadhrat Abul Aas (R.A) had not accepted Islaam by then, Hadhrat Zaynab (R.A) had already instilled the love of Islaam in his heart. Loyalty to her Husband

Upon reaching Madinah, Hadhrat Abul Aas τ requested Hadhrat Zaynab (R.A) to grant him amnesty. Rasulullaah ρ sanctioned her amnesty and advised her saying, "Beloved daughter! Out of respect for Rasulullaah ρ and Hadhrat Zaynab (R.A), the Sahabah ψ returned the captured wealth to Hadhrat Abul Aas τ and prepared to send him back to Makkah. "No," they responded, "may Allaah I reward you abundantly. I now declare my Imaan after Allaah I has allowed me to return your trusts." Rasulullaah ρ performed the Janaazah salaah and placed the body in the grave. Rasulullaah ρ was extremely grieved upon her demise. **NOTE:** If women inculcate certain important qualities in their lives, they will be able to convert their homes to gardens of Jannah. These qualities are clearly displayed in the life of Hadhrat Zaynab (R.A). The first is that the wife should be deeply in love with her husband. May Allaah I grant every Muslim the quality of keeping promises.
Aameen.

Testimony of the Husband

The status of a loving wife is at its height when her husband testifies that there is none as good as she and if he has to search for a wife with her sterling qualities, he will be unable to find someone. The life of Hadhrat Zaynab (R.A) is an example for all women to follow. Her excellent behaviour towards her Mushrik husband is exemplary and won him over to Islaam.

Many Muslim women swayed the sword of love on their husbands to convert them to Islaam. This incident of Hadhrat Zaynab (R.A) teaches the wives of the world how to love their husbands and to sacrifice everything for them. At the same time, every wife needs to be concerned that her husband should be saved from Jahannam. At the same time, she should ensure that she does not become the cause for her husband or her children suffering any loss in the Hereafter.

Rasulullaah ρ told them that the best wealth was a tongue that engages in Allaah 's Dhikr, a heart that is grateful and a Muslim wife who assists her husband in his faith. True wealth is a tongue that engages in Allaah 's Dhikr, a heart that is grateful and a Muslim wife who assists her husband in his faith.

{TRANSLATION: To Allaah do we belong and to Him shall we return. O Allaah ! One should reflect on the meaning of this du'aa and explain it to one's husband and children to console them.

A good wife should remind her husband about his five daily salaahs, fasting and reciting the Qur'aan daily. By encouraging her husband and children to fulfil their

duties to the Deen and to practise the Sunnahs of Rasulullaah ρ, she will be doing them all a great favour.

Rasulullaah ρ made the following du'aa, "May Allaah I shower His mercy on the woman who wakes up for Tahajjud, performs her salaah and wakes her husband up as well. Love for the Husband

Irrespective of a woman's education and beauty, she will never really be the true beloved of her husband if she is not obedient to him. The most effective manner of harnessing the husband's sincere love is to obey him and serve him with love and devotion.

Homes in which the wives sincerely love their husbands and obey them are not tainted by quarrels and friction. On the other hand, life becomes hell in the homes of women who disobey their husbands and who have a terse reply for everything he says. One should always remember that love for his wife is the elixir which adds happiness to a husband's life. Even though Hadhrat Aadam υ had every bounty he could imagine in Jannah, his heart was still not content until Allaah I created Hadhrat Hawwa (R.A) to be Hadhrat Aadam υ's wife.

Every husband looks for love in the heart of his wife and searches every act and gesture of hers to detect the love she has for him. A wife should therefore put on a smiling face whenever she meets her husband. Every wife should understand that her affection is sufficient to dissolve her husband's fatigue and dispel his every difficulty. This is what her husband wants from her. When the wife is a devout Muslim, the husband becomes pleased. The wife who inculcates all these good qualities in her life will be everything to her husband. Wise men always maintain that the most unfortunate person is he who feels unfortunate with his wife and children. On the other hand, the most fortunate man is he who feels fortunate and happy with his wife and children.
May Allaah I make every person as fortunate as this.

Women who make Men Old Before their Time

Rasulullaah ρ used to make the following du'aa, "O Allaah ! I seek Your protection from a wife who makes me old before my time." May Allaah I safeguard every woman from qualities that make her destroy the youth of her husband, and may Allaah I save every man from such a wife. "Your daughter-in-law," replied her son. "Nonsense!" blurted his wife. After divorcing his wife, a poet wrote:

Life is not life for a couple with incompatibility on the prowl
May Allaah save the men of the universe from you
In my knowledge, your life has been an evil life (because you have displeased Allaah and people)

It is hardly surprising that Hadhrat Zaynab (R.A) was so loyal and compassionate towards her husband because her mother Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) was the same. By being a good wife, a woman not only teaches her daughters to be good wives, but she also raises many generations of good wives in her granddaughters and great granddaughters. Not only will her husband and sons-in-law remember her fondly in their du'aas, but so too will men of many generations who marry her descendants. Even as a Mushrik, Hadhrat Abul Aas τ used to say on his journeys to Shaam, "May

Allaah I abundantly reward the daughter of Ameen ε on behalf of every husband who comes to know of her."

If a woman does not take heed, the opposite will take place. If a woman behaves insolently with her husband, is ungrateful and does not honour him as she should, the ill effects of her behaviour will certainly rub off onto her daughters, granddaughters and great granddaughters. We make du'aa to Allaah I to cast the graceful shadow of Hadhrat Zaynab (R.A) on all our daughters and that Allaah I shower her with His mercy. May Allaah I also fill our hearts with sincere love for our husbands.

We shall now discuss the life of Rasulullaah ρ's second daughter Hadhrat Ruqayya (R.A).

Hadhrat Ruqayya bint Muhammad ε (R.A)

The Wife of Hadhrat Uthmaan τ

Hadhrat Ruqayya (R.A) was the second daughter of Rasulullaah ρ and the third daughter of Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A). Five years after Nabuwwah (i.e. after Rasulullaah ρ announced his prophethood), Hadhrat Uthmaan τ and Hadhrat Ruqayya (R.A) migrated to Abyssinia. For a long while afterwards, Rasulullaah ρ received no news from his daughter until a woman of the Quraysh informed him that the couple were well. Rasulullaah ρ said:

{TRANSLATION: "May Allaah I be their companion."}

This is a du'aa that every parent should make for their children, especially for those children who are travelling. When Hadhrat Uthmaan τ and Hadhrat Ruqayya (R.A) reached Madinah, they stayed at the home of Hadhrat Aws bin Thaabit τ. The Demise of Hadhrat Ruqayya (R.A)

Hadhrat Ruqayya (R.A) left to meet Allaah I during the 2nd year after Hijrah when Rasulullaah ρ had left for the Battle of Badr. May Allaah I bless our women with her noble and pure qualities. Aameen.

Hadhrat Ummu Hakeem bintul Haarith (R.A)

Sacrifice

Together with being a woman of great courage and making tremendous sacrifices for Deen, Hadhrat Ummu Hakeem (R.A) had great love for her husband. Before accepting Islaam, she fought along side her husband in the Battle of Uhud against the Muslims. Concern for her Husband

Like a true loyal and loving wife, she sought amnesty from Rasulullaah ρ on behalf of her husband. The magnanimous Rasulullaah ρ accepted her request and like he had given amnesty to people who were his sworn enemies, he did the same for her husband. During the Khilaafah of Hadhrat Abu Bakr τ, Hadhrat Ummu Hakeem (R.A) and her husband Hadhrat Ikrama τ left to fight at Yarmook, a place bordering Syria. It was there that her husband was martyred and entered into the mercy of Allaah I.

Her Second Marriage

After completing her Iddah (waiting period after her husband's death), Hadhrat Ummu Hakeem (R.A) married Hadhrat Khaalid bin Sa'eed τ in an area of Damascus called Marjus Safar. Hadhrat Sheikh Zakariyya (A.R) writes: "Let alone the women of our times, even the men would not be prepared to get married under such circumstances. Even if a woman married at such a time, she would have mourned for a very long time after her husband's death.
Notwithstanding the loss of her husband, this pious servant of Allaah I participated in the Jihaad herself and even killed seven enemy soldiers."

It is the Responsibility of the Wife to Make her Husband Lead a Pious Life

If the husband is engaged in earning Haraam, the wife should advise him to desist and to fulfil all the obligations due from him to others. It is not at all difficult for a woman to make her husband religious. A good wife and mother should not send her husband and sons out to work without explaining that earning a living is not the reason and objective of their creation. Hadhrat Anas τ narrates that his mother Ummu Sulaym (R.A) had received a marriage proposal from Hadhrat Abu Talha τ before he accepted Islaam. Hadhrat Ummu Sulaym (R.A) then asked her son Hadhrat Anas τ to perform the Nikaah (marriage) and the two were married.

An Example of a Woman Changing her Husband for the Better

The same occurred with her second husband. Allaah I therefore granted Hadhrat Ummu Hakeem (R.A) the honour of being the wife of two martyrs. Her life was a great lesson to all Muslim women until Qiyaamah.

There are many women whose husbands may be Muslims but are neglecting their duties to Islaam or may be committing sins. Make my husband/son/brother pious men who are particular about their salaah and who stay away from sin. Aameen."

After adopting piety yourself, winning his love and making sincere du'aa to Allaah I, start encouraging him towards righteousness with love and respect. Keep reminding him in an appropriate manner, keep sending him to good environments and cry to Allaah I in du'aa at night so that Allaah I may guide him.

If the son of Abu Jahal could be convinced by his wife to accept Islaam, there is no reason why the heart of a Muslim husband, brother or son cannot be changed to practise the injunctions of the Shari'ah. If a woman sincerely cries to Allaah I for guidance, lovingly gives encouragement and despite being treated shabbily, she treats kindly, she will Insha Allaah be able to effect a positive change.

In addition to fulfilling the rights of her husband, Hadhrat Ummu Hakeem (R.A) also fulfilled the rights of Islaam by assisting in Jihaad so that Islaam could spread throughout the world. She understood that the responsibility of Muslim women is not confined to her home. Because Nikaah is a command of Allaah I, she should not be ashamed of remarrying if the opportunity arises. Rasulullaah ρ has mentioned that when a suitable person of good character and piety proposes for a woman, her family should get her married. Hadhrat Aatika bint Amar bin Nufayl Adawiyya (R.A) was first married to Abdullaah, the son of Hadhrat Abu Bakr τ. After the demise of Hadhrat Umar τ, she was married to Hadhrat Zubayr bin Awaam τ. When he was also martyred, Hadhrat Ali τ proposed for her hand in marriage. This incident makes it clear that a husband's bequest for his wife not to remarry is not permissible. Besides Hadhrat Aatika (R.A), there were many other Sahabiyaat (R.A) who remarried after their husbands passed away or after being divorced from their husbands. Hadhrat Asma bint Umays (R.A) was first married to Hadhrat Ja'far τ. When he was martyred in the Battle of Mauta, she married Hadhrat Abu Bakr τ and then Hadhrat Ali τ when Hadhrat Abu Bakr τ passed away. Hadhrat Ummu Kulthoom (R.A) was first married to Hadhrat Zaid bin Haaritha τ. When Hadhrat Abdur Rahmaan bin Awf τ passed away, she married Hadhrat Amar bin Al Aas τ. Neither did the widowed or divorced women look down on remarrying, nor did the men who married them. It is common knowledge that besides Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A), all Rasulullaah ρ's wives were widows. Women would have someone to take care of them and their children if they ever lost their husbands. At the same time, if a wife is unable to satisfy her husband on reasonable grounds, he will not have to resort to illicit means of satisfying himself because his other wife/wives will surely be able to satisfy him. In this manner the chastity of men and women will be safeguarded and there would not be the flood of illegitimate children we see today. There will bring great joy in

everyone's lives when men fulfil the rights of all their wives and provide equally for all. A Woman without a Husband is a Pauper

Men and women should always bear in mind that Rasulullaah ρ said, "A man without a wife is a pauper." "Even if he is wealthy?" asked the Sahabah ψ. Rasulullaah ρ then added, "A woman without a husband is a pauper." "Even if she is wealthy?" asked the Sahabah ψ. Rasulullaah ρ once asked Hadhrat Ukaaf bin Bishr Tameemi τ whether he was married. When he replied in the negative, Rasulullaah ρ asked him whether he owned a slave woman. When a man or woman is ready for marriage, the Shari'ah of Islaam does not approve of their decision to remain single. Rasulullaah ρ once mentioned, "I also marry. Together with emphasising the importance of marriage to safeguard people's chastity, Allaah I has also promised poor people that He shall grant them wealth if they marry. Allaah I says[5], ***"Marry those from you who are unmarried and those slave men and women who are righteous. Allaah is of ample means, All Knowing."***

It is therefore incorrect to stay single because even if one does not possess enough wealth, Allaah I shall grant one the wealth when one marries. Hadhrat Abdullaah bin Mas'ood τ has mentioned, "Even if I had only ten days of life left, I would prefer getting married instead of being single."

Hadhrat Haaji Imdaadullaah (A.R) also married a second wife towards the end of his life.
This conscientious wife served him as well as his first wife who had become blind.

Hadhrat Abdullaah bin Mas'ood τ reports that Rasulullaah ρ said, "Seek wealth through marriage."

Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) narrated that Rasulullaah ρ said, "Get married because women will be a source of wealth for you." There were many incidents during the time of Rasulullaah ρ when poor people were blessed with wealth after marrying. In fact, Rasulullaah ρ would encourage poor people to marry so that they could be self-sufficient. Other women should assist them in this and none should prevent their husbands from marrying other women especially when they intend marrying widows, divorcees or women who were unable to get married for valid reasons. The same applies to men. All the Shari'ah requires for marriage is that the man pays dowry to his wife. If the bride agrees, payment can be deferred to a later time. If a man can fulfil the rights of multiple wives, his first wife should not be an obstacle.

One's husband or wife is the valuable factor that gives substance and worth to one's life, without whom life will be lustreless and without spirit. Hadhrat Khowla bint Maalik (R.A) was an extremely eloquent and well-spoken person. Her story is being related to teach all Muslim women what to do when they have problems with their husbands. She has mentioned, "By Allaah ! The opening verses of Surah Mujaadala (Surah 58) were revealed concerning myself and my husband Hadhrat Aws bin Saamit τ." My husband has consumed my youth and I have given birth to his children. If my small children are left with me, they would probably die of starvation and if they are left with my husband, they would be destroyed." Allaah I then revealed the opening verses of Surah Mujaadalah[6] saying, ***"Allaah had certainly heard the speech of the lady who debated with you concerning her husband and who***

[5] Surah Noor (Surah 24), verse 32.
[6] Surah 58, verse 1.

complained to Allaah . Allaah was listening to your discussion. Verily Allaah is All Hearing, All Seeing." Rasulullaah ρ then addressed Hadhrat Khowla (R.A) saying, "O Khowla! You cousin (husband) has grown old, so fear Allaah I with regard to him (i.e. exercise patience with him)." Hadhrat Khowla (R.A) then said that she would also supply some dates to assist her husband. Thereupon, Rasulullaah ρ said, "You have done well. Hadhrat Khowla (R.A) was such a distinguished woman in Islamic history that Allaah I responded to her plea and the Ummah will remember her as long as the Qur'aan is recited. When Hadhrat Umar τ stopped, the people asked him why he stopped for a frail old woman. Allaah I listened to her from above the seven heavens. How can Umar not listen to her when Allaah I did."

The story of Hadhrat Khowla (R.A) displays the perfect confidence that a Muslim should have in Allaah I. Allaah I says in the Qur'aan, *"It is certainly Him (Allaah) Who makes (people) laugh and cry.* Allaah I creates every favourable condition just as he creates every unfavourable condition. One should supplicate to Allaah I by saying what Hadhrat Khowla (R.A) said. She said, "O Allaah I! O Allaah I! O Allaah I! My home is deserted and my children are distressed. Allaah I says in the Qur'aan[7], *"O you who believe! Verily Allaah is with the patient ones."* It is therefore necessary for every woman to plead to Allaah I for the solutions to all her domestic problems. Allaah I is the Only One who can solve one's problems. Although Allaah I is the One who solves all problems, Allaah I has instructed us to consult with others. Even Rasulullaah ρ consulted with the Sahabah ψ. If a woman's husband is extremely short-tempered, she should recite "Bismillaahir Rahmaan nir Raheem" seven times and blow on his food or drink. The same prescription can be used for one's children and mother-in-law if they are short-tempered. Being Patient with an Aged Husband

You cousin (husband) has grown old, so fear Allaah I with regard to him (i.e. exercise patience with him)." This means that a woman should be even more patient when her husband ages and will therefore receive greater rewards.

What Should the Wife do When her Husband is at Fault?

Hakeemul Ummah Moulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi (A.R) tells women that if they also become angry when their husbands do, it means that they regard themselves equal to or better than men. A woman should therefore not backchat when her husband is angry. The Failing of Husband and Wife and a Word of Caution to Both

The consequences of the husband's reaction are not confined to the couple, but affect the families of both. If one party keeps silent, the argument will end. There are also many foolish women who become widows by daring their husbands to divorce them. Divorce should never be mentioned. We will now quote two cases where matters would have not reached where they did if the husband and wife had exercised more caution. Tired after retuning from working long in the sun, the husband rings the bell of his home. Still busy in the bathroom, the wife takes some

[7] Surah Baqara, verse 153.

time before opening. **HUSBAND:** I've been ringing the bell for the past half hour. **WIFE:** Couldn't you wait for two minutes? **HUSBAND:** I cannot live with you! Go to your mother's!

The husband asks for some tea. **WIFE:** What's the matter?

HUSBAND: Look at how many tea leaves have remained behind in the cup!

WIFE: Can't you even take this much? HUSBAND: Is that how you speak to me? If either the husband or the wife in either situation had remained silent at the outburst of the other, they would have remained husband and wife. If you are a husband, you should take heed not to behave as the men in the above incidents did. If you are a wife, you should beware not to do what the wives in these incidents did. May Allaah I save all couples from kindling the fires of disunity.

The Etiquette of Entering a Home

Rasulullaah ρ then permitted him to enter.

1. Hadhrat Jibra'eel υ replied that Hadhrat Muhammad ε was with him. When Hadhrat Abu Bakr τ arrived and knocked, Hadhrat Abu Moosa τ asked who it was. The same happened when Hadhrat Umar τ and Hadhrat Uthmaan τ arrived shortly afterwards. Rasulullaah ρ disliked this ambiguous reply. Hadhrat Abu Moosa τ narrates that Rasulullaah ρ said, "Permission to enter should be sought thrice. If permission is granted then all is fine. Teach the du'aas for entering the home to your husband and children and ensure that they recite these du'aas every time they enter.
   {TRANSLATION: "O Allaah! We enter with the name of Allaah and we leave with the name of Allaah and in Allaah I Alone do we trust."} Hadhrat Jaabir τ has narrated from Rasulullaah ρ that when a person takes Allaah's name at the time of entering his home and at the time of eating, Shaytaan says to his companions, "There is neither accommodation nor food for us here."
   One should learn the du'aas mentioned in these books and teach them to one's children.

If one's husband is also angry, he should also be given water to drink.

If one is sitting, one should then lie down. ***Allaah loves those who do good..."*** If one's heart still refuses to accept, one should censure one's heart for being so hard and unrelenting. The wife may step awhile outdoors and the husband may go to the Masjid. Rasulullaah ρ said, "Behold! Insha Allaah, one will receive the necessary guidance from them.
Hakeemul Ummah Moulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi (A.R) writes that if women learn to control their tongues, they would be damsels of Jannah walking on earth. If women exercise patience and keep silent when their husbands scold them in anger, they will soon become like the pure damsels of Jannah. If the wife backchats, the situation can get out of control and her husband may say or do something that both will regret. If women practise what he advised, they will convert their homes into gardens of Jannah.

All women achieve by backchat is to make their husbands lose their feelings of sympathy and compassion. When a woman relentlessly harps on an issue and nags, her husband's heart becomes detached from her even though he is a good and caring person. No man can tolerate his wife's backchat. By speaking sweetly to her husband, a woman can make him forget all her faults. On the contrary, the husband of a woman who has every virtue will quickly forget all her virtues if she speaks insolently.

Be Concerned about Your Husband's Comfort

A wife should always be conscious about her husband's food, clothing, health, rest and amenities. It is therefore imperative that every wife acquaints herself with her husband's likes and dislikes. Intelligent women win over their husbands by diligently serving their husbands. A man is slave to the wife who serves him and not to the wife who is only beautiful. Make your Husband your Friend

To lead a happy life, a woman has to make her husband her friend. The couple's hearts cannot be united if the wife does not regard her husband as her friend. How to Make Your Husband your Friend

By convincing yourself that you have no friend truer than your husband.
Never lie to him and never hide anything from him.

Factors that Attract the Husband

Women should inculcate the following qualities in their lives to win their husbands over:

If a sin is committed, repent immediately.

A Wife Should Never Look Down on her Husband

Irrespective of the husband's status in society, it is compulsory for his wife to obey his instructions. When good Muslims like the Sahabah ψ had to obey a tyrannical governor like Hajjaaj bin Yusuf, why should a woman not obey her husband? When every woman has witnesses to attest to her marriage, why then should she not obey her husband? Of course, the husband cannot stop his wife from her Fardh obligations and she may not obey him if he stops her from these. The Shari'ah has attached so much importance to obeying the husband that if he instructs her to delay her salaah when there is ample time to perform it in its proper time, she should obey him. If a woman's husband instructs her to commit a sin, she is obliged not to obey him. NOTE: It often occurs that women are more academically educated than their husbands, either in religious education or in secular education. Almost every quarrel between mother and

daughter, between mother-in-law and daughter-in-law and between sisters-in-law are a result of suspicion and unverified information. Well, your sister-in-law (your husband's younger brother's wife) said that her husband was outraged about the food and said, 'Doesn't my brother's wife know how to make rice after all these years? Thereafter, adding some spice to the incident, the elder daughter-in-law relates the incident to the mother-in-law. That evening, he heard the mother saying, "Son, Mashaa Allaah, you are a very good child. A Du'aa that Every Woman should Make

Because it more commonly affects women, every woman should make the following du'aa after every salaah:

If Allaah I purges one's heart from malice, it is an extremely great favour from Him. Hakeemul Ummah Moulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi (A.R) has mentioned that it is tragic that women nowadays actually wait for women to come from other towns so that they may ask them what other women are speaking. Eventually, two Muslim homes are irreconcilably divided and Allaah I's wrath is directed against everyone concerned.

Remember! Animosity Between Women Causes Animosity Between Men

It often occurs that a woman complains to her husband about everything that his mother and sisters tell her in addition to the fights that the children of the family had with her children. Eventually, the relationship between blood brothers is eternally severed all because of one woman.

An Appeal to Men

Husbands are urged not to listen to such complaints of their wives. Akbar was martyred by the pinch of a woman."

If there have been problems among the children, explain to her that the family's children are all like your own. The same should apply to all the children of the family. It is also necessary to explain to one's wife that if she is the eldest sister-in-law, she should show more concern and behave like a mother towards the other sisters-in-law. If your wife is a younger sister-in-law, tell her that she should regard the other sisters-in-law as her real sisters. A husband should advise his wife in this manner instead of becoming angry with everyone else. There are many husbands who behave like real men by using their intelligence when such situations arise." A husband should not start fighting with one's little brothers (especially if they are without a father or mother) or with one's parents and sisters merely because one's wife complained about them. If you are unable to explain matters to your wife, never scold your mother even though it may be her fault. Never rebuke your mother for anything because she is your mother and deserves the highest respect. Of course, you should never oppress your wife because of your mother. Caring for Orphaned Brothers-and-Sisters-in-Law

May Allaah I grant everyone the ability to practise accordingly.
If women adhere to the two principles mentioned hereunder, I am certain that all her disputes with her husband will be effectively terminated. To avoid arguments, one should agree and say "Alright" even if one's husband says that day is night. Thereafter, make du'aa to Allaah I saying, "O Allaah I! The hearts of men are in Your control. O Allaah I! If you are a good wife, there is scarcely a man in this world who would still refuse permission. Because Allaah I has made men leaders of women[8], every man expects his wife to listen to him. A wife should therefore abide by whatever her husband decides. If a woman wants her word to be binding on her husband and effuses to acknowledge that he is her leader, she is opposing Allaah I's natural system as well as the Shari'ah. A husband will never be able to point a finger at his wife if she accepts him as her leader and does everything that pleases him.

Whenever a woman is leaving her father's home as a bride, she should always remember that following advice that a father gave to his daughter. Bear in mind that since time began, the nature of every daughter

Tolerate everything that life presents

Never allow a blemish to taint your father's name

In addition to all of this, there may be problems with in-laws or with one's temperamental husband. There are so many little squabbles between husband and wife which eventually lead to grave consequences. All of these can be avoided if the wife takes the initiative to apologise and seek forgiveness. If every woman takes a lesson from the villager in the above story, many problems will be solved. Only a foolish wife will contest what her husband says by counter questioning him and denying everything she did. May Allaah I save all Muslim couples from such disputes. Aameen.

An Excellent Method of Softening One's Husband

[8] Surah Nisaa (Surah 4), verse 34.

Here is an excellent elixir that will save women from many a difficulty. It will turn a tyrannical husband into a lamb, a foolish husband into a sensible human being and an irreligious husband into a pious man. If a man gets a good wife who is also pretty, he will be extremely fortunate. May Allaah I save all Muslim men fom such women.
Aameen.

Allaah I has granted women the ability to do get away with many things by merely speaking sweetly with their husbands. When a woman kindly asks her husband to forgive her, he has no option but to forgive. May Allaah I grant all women the ability to admit their faults and ask for forgiveness. May Allaah I also grant all men the ability to run their homes efficiently and the ability to resolve disputes amicably after hearing all sides.
Aameen.

A Woman's Ability to Tame a Man

A story is narrated about a woman who was constantly at loggerheads with her husband. The woman happily left the Hakeem with a resolution that she would do her utmost to please her husband.

If every Muslim wife abstains from backchat and admits her mistakes without trying to justify them, she will soon win the confidence of her husband and her in-laws. Women Cannot be Equal to Men

Hakeemul Ummah Hadhrat Moulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi (A.R) explains that distinction between man and woman is so irreconcilable that Rasulullaah ρ said, "If I were to command anyone to prostrate before a being besides Allaah, I would have commanded women to prostrate before their husbands." This hadith makes it clear that the position of a husband in the Shari'ah is so great that his wife ought to prostrate before him if this were permissible. Women should bear in mind that they should never become angry with their husbands because one may become angry only with those people who are inferior than or equal to oneself. Becoming angry with one's husband and justifying one's wrongs are wrongs themselves. If a woman truly believes that she is subservient to her husband, she will find it impossible to become angry with him irrespective of how angry he makes her.

Every wife should therefore accept her status and realise that Allaah I has made men the leaders of women and they should therefore remain silent when their husbands are angry. Women should purge their minds of the misconception that they are superior to or equal to men. An Effective Manner of Creating Love in Your Husband's Heart

When Allaah I Looks at a Couple with Love and Mercy

The hadith states that when a man arrives home and looks at his wife with love and she in turn looks at him with love, Allaah I looks at the two of them with mercy. A loving relationship between husband and wife therefore benefits the couple in the Aakhirah just as it does in this world.

Every wife should therefore do everything to please her husband and should realise that the success of her life in this world as well as in the Hereafter depends on how she treats her husband. Unfortunate indeed is the wife who does not care to meet her tired husband at the door. In fact, a wife ought to do everything that pleases her husband before he can even ask her for it. If a wife realises her value in society, she will come to know that she performs the vital function of injecting life and vigour into her husband, thereby adding vitality to the entire society. When your husband returns home, do not immediately begin relating the problems of the day. If only women would learn all of this, dress presentably when their husbands arrive home and wash off their fatigue with the soap of a gleaming smile. Decorate your tablecloth with the best of whatever your husband can afford and have the food ready on time. A Smile Revives the Heart

A beautiful wife is one who brings happiness to her husband's heart. It is therefore extremely necessary for every wife to do her best wear a smiling face whenever she meets her husband. The husband and children should also ensure that they wear a smiling face when entering the home. An effective manner of creating love between husband and wife is to keep smiling to each other and to refrain from speaking about things that make one unhappy. A smiling face is truly a great bounty of Allaah I.

A Pious Lady called Hadhrat Ummu Sulaym (R.A)

Hadhrat Ummu Sulaym (R.A) was one of those fortunate women of the Sahabiyaat about whom Rasulullaah ρ said that they would enter Jannah. Hadhrat Jaabir τ narrates that Rasulullaah ρ said, "I saw myself walking in the gardens of Jannah when I suddenly beheld Abu Talha's wife Rumaysa." Hadhrat Ummu Sulaym (R.A) had received a marriage proposal from Hadhrat Abu Talha τ before he accepted Islaam. Hadhrat Abu Talha τ then left to meet Rasulullaah ρ. Rasulullaah ρ was in the company of some other Sahabah ψ when he noticed Hadhrat Abu Talha τ approach. Hadhrat Abu Talha τ accepted Islaam and married Hadhrat Ummu Sulaym (R.A).

When Hadhrat Abu Talha τ related this to Rasulullaah ρ, Rasulullaah ρ appreciated her spirit and he told Hadhrat Ummu Sulaym (R.A) that she would not need the dagger because Allaah I was sufficient for her.

A child of Hadhrat Abu Talha τ was very ill when he left home to tend to his affairs. Hadhrat Ummu Sulaym (R.A) wrapped the child in a sheet, left him in the room where he passed away and began preparing food for her husband. Satisfied that his child was well, Hadhrat Abu Talha τ did not enter the room.

The couple spent the night as any happy couple would. Hadhrat Ummu Sulaym (R.A) then told her husband, "Allaah I has loaned you your child and has now asked for him back. Shocked at his wife's behaviour, Hadhrat Abu Talha τ complained to Rasulullaah ρ. Commending the behaviour of Hadhrat Ummu Sulaym (R.A), Rasulullaah ρ prayed, "O Abu Talha! May Allaah I bless your night." Rasulullaah ρ's Concern for her

Hadhrat Anas τ [who was the son of Hadhrat Ummu Sulaym (R.A)] narrates that besides the homes of his wives, the only home in Madinah that Rasulullaah ρ frequented was the home of Hadhrat Ummu Sulaym (R.A). Hadhrat Anas τ also narrates that Rasulullaah ρ was sleeping at the their house one afternoon. When Hadhrat Ummu Sulaym (R.A) fell pregnant after the du'aa of Rasulullaah ρ and was in the final stages of pregnancy, her husband Hadhrat Abu Talha τ was preparing to leave on a Jihaad expedition. Allaah I made the Muslims victorious and she returned with them to Madinah. You know well that I love to leave Madinah with Rasulullaah ρ and that I love to enter Madinah with Rasulullaah ρ. As soon as the child was born, she called for her son Hadhrat Anas τ and sent the baby with him to Rasulullaah ρ saying that none should feed the child until the child was taken to Rasulullaah ρ. When Hadhrat Anas τ brought the child, Rasulullaah ρ said, "It seems as if Ummu Sulaym has delivered." Rasulullaah ρ once mentioned that he had heard footsteps in Jannah. [Muslim Vol. 2 Pg. 292]

After reading these incidents, we should make this du'aa to Allaah I: "O Allaah! I am making this du'aa for myself as well as for all Muslim men and women throughout the world. Aameen."

Commenting on the hadith which mentions the death of Hadhrat Ummu Sulaym (R.A)'s child, Hadhrat Moulana Muhammad Zakariyya (A.R) writes, "It took great patience and courage to endure the death of her child in a manner that her husband knew nothing about it. Because her husband was fasting, she feared that it would become difficult for him to eat if he learned about the child's death."

Every woman should learn a lesson from this incident. Always remember that if you create ill-feelings between him and his mother or sisters, the day will soon dawn when your beloved son's wife or your beloved brother's wife will cause a rift between you and your son or brother. Now as a mother-in-law, I cannot find a good daughter-in-law."

If a daughter-in-law adopts the life of people like Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A), Hadhrat Faatima (A.R) and other pious women, Insha Allaah she will not have to suffer the trouble of a difficult daughter-in-law. May Allaah I grant this understanding to all Muslim men and women. Women were also Muftis

Five Qualities of a Pious Wife

At the same time, one should also make du'aa that Allaah I should grant oneself as well as all other Muslim women the ability to do this.

The most important quality of a good wife is that she obeys every instruction of her husband that does not violate the commands of Allaah I. When a wife obeys all her husband's lawful instructions for the pleasure of Allaah I, she will win his love and trust. Whenever a wife senses grief in her husband's face, she should immediately share his feelings and sympathise with him. Hadhrat Abu Dardaa τ Advises his Wife

If we do not do this, we can never make any progress together."

Whereas life was lived for oneself before marriage, life after marriage is lived for others. Everything will be subject to the needs of her husband.

Every wife should therefore not forget that the first requirement of a good wife in the words of Rasulullaah ρ is that she obeys her husband. Hadhrat Ummu Salma (R.A) narrates that she heard Rasulullaah ρ say, "The woman who passes every stage of her life and finally reaches the final stage while her husband is pleased with her, she will surely enter Jannah. The hadith has already been quoted in which Rasulullaah ρ says, "If I were to command anyone to prostrate to another, I would have commanded wives to prostrate to their husbands. Uniting Two Hearts

Allaah I has appointed men as leaders of women in the couple's journey through life. Because the husband remains her leader throughout the wife's life Rasulullaah ρ has emphasised his position by stating that she would be commanded to prostrate before him if this was permissible for anyone besides Allaah I.

Keep the final stages of your life in mind together with the bounties that Allaah I shall bestow on you for being an obedient wife. Never make your husband angry and you will have no worries when Allaah I asks you on the Day of Qiyaamah whether you had fulfilled the rights of your husband. You will be able to say that by pleasing your husband you sought Allaah's pleasure, which you will have on that day.

May Allaah I make you the ruler of your husband's heart and include you in the ranks of people like Hadhrat Faatima (R.A) who shall be the leader of the women in Jannah and in the ranks of people like Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) in whose lap Allaah's beloved Rasul ρ passed away despite the presence of thousands of Sahabah ψ who would give their lives for him. The Jihaad of Women

Hadhrat Asmaa bint Yazeed Ansaari (R.A) once said, "O Rasulullaah ρ! Indeed Allaah I has sent you as a messenger to both men and women. We women have therefore believed in you and in Allaah I. However, we have to remain indoors, tend to our domestic chores, fulfil the desires of our husbands and bear their children. "We never thought that a woman would ask such an excellent question," replied the Sahabah ψ.

Hadhrat Asmaa (R.A) returned very happily with this reply.

Obedience to and kind treatment of one's husband is an extremely great virtue which many wives are negligent in performing.

The second quality of a pious wife is that "she pleases him (her husband) when he looks at her". Such a wife employs lawful means to look after her beauty and cleanliness so that she remains attractive for her husband.

A Grave Error of Many Women

Others are therefore thrilled at the husband's expense. While demanding her rights and maintenance from the husband, she spends the same to please others. It is for

this reason that Rasulullaah ρ described a good wife as one who pleases her husband when he looks at her.
If a wife takes pride in her appearance and beautifies herself, she will be the most beautiful woman to her husband.

Never should a wife insist that her husband buys her something merely because someone else has it. Allaah I also describes a pious woman in the Qur'aan when He says, ***"So the pious women are obedient and, in the absence of their husbands, are protective because of that which Allaah has protected."*** In another hadith[9], Rasulullaah ρ makes it clear that "a woman is a guardian over her husband's home." A Wife Should be Genuinely Concerned about her Husband's Wealth

Hakeemul Ummah Moulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi (A.R) has mentioned in his advices that a wife's heart should pain when her husband's wealth is spent wastefully. The simplicity of the homes of Hadhrat Faatima (R.A), Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A), Hadhrat Zaynab (R.A) and Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A). We have come to carry out deeds that please Allaah I. The simpler we keep our homes, the more Allaah I shall love us. Women are inclined to waste a great deal of money in weddings. On such occasions, all matters are referred to women, almost as if men know nothing about spending. Hosting Simple Marriage Ceremonies

Rasulullaah ρ has also mentioned, "The best of women are those who ask for the least dowry." According to another hadith, Rasulullaah ρ said, "The signs of a blessed woman is that her proposal comes soon, her dowry is small and her child is born soon." It is therefore imperative for every woman to bear in mind that she will soon be a sister-in-law or a mother-in-law when her brother or son marries. Favours should be sought only from Allaah I.
Causing people unnecessary expenditure will invite Allaah's wrath.

Rasulullaah ρ replied, "The best wealth is a tongue that engages in Dhikr, the heart that is grateful and a Mu'min wife who assists her husband in his Imaan." Whereas people generally regard money, businesses and property as wealth, Rasulullaah ρ described three things as true wealth because of their immense benefits to man. Commenting on the above hadith, Mullaa Ali Qaari (A.R) writes in his commentary of "Mishkaat" that a wife who assists her husband in his Imaan refers to a wife who is concerned about her husband's religiousness and reminds him when it is time to perform salaah or fast, etc. In our fast corrupting environment, we desperately need women who are concerned about the religiousness of their husbands and children. However, it is tragic to note that we are faced with a worsening situation because instead of encouraging their husbands to practise the injunctions of Deen, many women nowadays actually prevent their husbands from religious practices. Instead of encouraging them to be practical Muslims, such women tease their husbands and call them names because they wish to grow a beard or dress according to the Shari'ah.

When a woman is blessed with such a heart, her life becomes one of contentment and happiness because she is grateful for whatever her husband provides. Allaah I asserts with great emphasis, ***"If you show gratitude, then I will definitely give you more, and if you are ungrateful, then indeed My punishment is severe."*** Women should inculcate the quality of thankfulness within themselves so that they could be grateful for everything that their husbands provide. Even if their husbands can afford only simple foods, they should regard this as the most exquisite delicacy, bearing in mind that millions of people do not even have this privilege. Unfortunately, there are many women who are never satisfied with what they get. A wife should express her

[9] Bukhari.

gratitude for everything that her husband provides, irrespective of how little it is. When a woman expresses her gratitude to her husband and to her in-laws, she will be expressing gratitude to Allaah I at the same time. O Allaah, I thank You." O Allaah, I thank You." O Allaah, I thank You." O Allaah, I thank You. This hadith makes it clear that showing ingratitude towards one's husband is a cause of landing a woman in Jahannam.

The wives of Rasulullaah ρ are referred to as the mothers of the Mu'mineen and every Muslim is proud to be known as their children in Islaam. Despite living lives of poverty and hardship, they never complained to Rasulullaah ρ. By Allaah! Ponder awhile about the home of the beloved wife of the most beloved creation ρ. The Story of Hadhrat Isma'eel (υ)'s First Wife

We will presently relate the stories of two wives of Hadhrat Isma'eel υ, the son of Hadhrat Ibraheem υ. These two incidents make it clear that a grateful wife and an ungrateful wife cannot be compared. Whereas the first wife complained about poverty instead of being grateful for her lot, the second wife expressed thanks to Allaah I despite their poverty. As a result of her attitude, Hadhrat Ibraheem υ made du'aa to Allaah I to grant the couple blessings in their food and drink. After Hadhrat Isma'eel υ got married, his father Hadhrat Ibraheem υ came to Makkah to visit him. Not finding his son at home, Hadhrat Ibraheem υ asked his daughter-in-law where her husband was. Unable to recognise Hadhrat Ibraheem υ, she said that her husband Hadhrat Isma'eel υ was out hunting. When Hadhrat Isma'eel υ returned, he asked his wife whether anyone had visited that day. Hadhrat Isma'eel υ then told his wife that the man was his father Hadhrat Ibraheem υ and that the instruction meant that he should divorce her. The Story of Hadhrat Isma'eel (υ)'s Second Wife

Hadhrat Isma'eel υ later married another woman. Hadhrat Ibraheem υ also asked this wife about their condition, to which she said that they were happy. Hadhrat Ibraheem υ then told his daughter-in-law to convey his regards to her husband and to tell him that he should keep the threshold of his door firmly in place.

When Hadhrat Isma'eel υ returned, he asked his wife whether someone had visited them that day. Although the second wife had meat only occasionally, she mentioned Allaah's bounties to Hadhrat Ibraheem υ without speaking about the many difficulties that came with it. Such an attitude was greatly appreciated by both husband and father-in-law. When a wife praises her parents-in-law as Hadhrat Isma'eel (υ)'s wife did, the husband is instantly impressed, his confidence in her is strengthened and he regards her as his own. If women could only understand this! May Allaah I cast the shadow of Hadhrat Isma'eel (υ)'s grateful wife on the wives of the Ummah and grant them her excellent character. Every wife should therefore make an effort to express gratitude to Allaah I in every situation, favourable or not. Rasulullaah ρ has mentioned that whoever does not thank people has not thanked Allaah I. The best method of thanking people is to tell them: "Jazaakallaahu Khayran" (May Allaah grant you the best reward). Parents should also thank their children in this manner whenever their children do something for them.

Both Husband and Wife should Exercise Patience

Scholars throughout the ages are unanimous that Hadhrat Luqmaan υ was an extremely wise man. Hadhrat Luqmaan υ ate every slice with relish. After relating this incident, Moulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi (A.R) comments that there will be no disputes between husband and wife if both remember the above rule. If the wife thinks that since her husband is always good to her, it matters little if he once behaves harshly towards her.
It is therefore imperative for both husband and wife to remember this principle that Hadhrat Luqmaan υ demonstrated.

By practising what Allaah I advises will earn Allaah I's pleasure and mercy. Allaah I declares, *"O you who believe! Verily Allaah is with the patient ones."* One cannot imagine the great position of people who receive Allaah's collective and special mercies, concerning whom Allaah I Himself has declared that they are rightly guided. None can avert the decree of Allaah I or protect one against Allaah I. Those Muslim men or women are truly fortunate and wise who realises that every condition is from Allaah I and should turn to Allaah I at all times. Allaah I says in the Qur'aan[10], *"It is certainly Him (Allaah) Who makes (people) laugh and cry."* If Allaah I wills, He can make a crying person laugh in an instant and vice versa. Allaah I is constantly testing His bondsmen to assess their Imaan. Every person wishes to be Allaah's friend like Hadhrat Ibraheem υ was without realising that Allaah I makes only such a person his friend who is prepared to dive into the raging fire of Nimrood upon Allaah's instruction. Such a person cleanses his heart of all inclinations except his inclination towards Allaah I. Advice to Women

The husband and wife relationship is a lifetime relationship. If the couple's hearts are united, they can have no greater bounty. On the contrary, if their hearts are divided, they can suffer no greater calamity.

A woman should therefore win over her husband's heart and should be ready to respond to his slightest indication. Keeping the Husband's Feelings in Mind

A wife should be vigilant over her husband's feelings and moods. The husband-wife relationship is not a hollow relationship. It is therefore necessary for the wife to realise that she should always maintain a high level of respect for her husband's feelings. It is incorrect for a wife to think that her husband is her equal.

[10] Surah Najm (Surah 53), verse 43.

Despite taunts of being a "wife-worshipper", a man could not be deterred from his devoted affection for his wife. When she was asked about this, the intelligent lady replied, "I regard my husband as my Jannah. Our love for each other is solely for Allaah I's pleasure. You may call me a besotted woman but I truly love him because he responds to my love with his own love. Every woman can harness her husband's love by submitting to him and doing everything he instructs. How I Conquered My Husband

My husband never spoke to me and refused to even drink the water I served. However, my parents-in-law possessed angelic qualities and were always trying to reason with my husband. During a spare moment one day, I happened to read a book by Hadhrat Moulana Ahmad Muhammad Hatorni Saheb concerning Muslim husbands and wives. My heart skipped a beat when I read the discussion about keeping one's husband happy. I convinced myself that I could inculcate in myself all the qualities that my husband admired in women. I thought that if I am successful in this, my husband would certainly pay more attention to me. Determining the temperament of my husband.
Determining what qualities he admires in a woman.
I could not stop thanking Allaah I as my heart swelled with joy.
I have now become my husband's darling. In fact, he refuses to even eat another woman's food. My advice to every woman who cannot make an impression on her husband is that she tries what I did. Insha Allaah she will certainly succeed.
Initially when my husband used to ignore my beauty, my youth and my enthusiasm, it seemed as if I was a widow living with my husband.

The husband changed his mind about marrying the other woman and was saved from her lure. This entire world is trivial - but not my husband
Please tell me if I have erred
Keep me as your wife even if it be as a servant to your other wife
To die for a woman!
If I am unfit for the home, I shall be a wall
If I exercise patience, my heart will burn to cinders

Never ask for Anything Above your Husband's Means

A wife should be content with whatever her husband can afford to provide for her. Of course, if the husband asks her what she would like to have, she may express her desire. Ask only from Allaah I. Remember that Allaah I has given people whatever they have and He can easily give you the same.

Dear sister! A man who is not in debt should be very grateful to Allaah I. One should remember that besides Allaah I, no one will be there for one if one is in a financial crisis. How an Intelligent Woman Runs her Home

The wife's task is to use the money prudently
How can a woman lacking this skill ever enjoy prosperity?

The woman deficient in wisdom can only be called a poor housewife
Your father-in-law will be happy, your husband will be happy and you will still remain as you are.”

The Etiquette of Meeting One’s Husband when he Returns from a Journey

Before leaving on a journey, a husband asked his wife what he should bring for her. When the husband returns, the wife should ask him how he is feeling and whether everything went well. Take Good Care of Your Husband’s Possessions

A wife should be particular about caring for her husband’s possessions and keeping them in an orderly fashion. It is useless if the husband has to tell the wife to keep the house tidy because things are more appreciated when they get done without a bidding. There are women who will be found beating the children when the husband steps into the house. Whereas the man may be returning tired
and frustrated, yearning for peace and quiet at home, he is confronted by wailing children and an irritated wife. The incompetence of the wife therefore deprives the innocent children of their father’s love and attention. A woman who is constantly screaming at the children and hitting them falls from her husband’s eyes and he will soon begin to admire women who are calmer.

The husband returns home tired. What a Wife Should do when her Husband Becomes Angry

When a woman’s husband becomes angry or annoyed with something, she should not reciprocate his anger. When one’s husband is angry, one should never say anything that will aggravate him further.
If the wife says something during his moment of anger, the situation may erupt and reach dramatic proportions.

The Approach of a Wise Wife

When a Husband Strikes up an Extra Marital Relationship

A wife should never accuse her husband of having a relationship with another woman merely because of suspicion. To make one's husband abandon such relationships and to win his complete attention, one should first stand up in salaah during the late hours of the night and make sincere du'aa to Allaah I that one's husband should desist from such practices. Insha Allaah, he will soon mend his ways and become one's slave when Allaah I guides him. How to Live Amicably with In-Laws

Together with blood relatives, Allaah I also speaks about the importance of in-laws[11]. If one has to live with one's parents-in-law, one should regard it as one's honour to serve them. When the mother-in-law learns that the daughter-in-law is planning to separate them from their beloved son, matters begin to deteriorate and life becomes unbearable for all concerned.

A daughter-in-law should live amicable with all her in-laws. It should not upset you if your husband gives all his money to his parents and gives you nothing. Never listen to gossip. Keep away from women who gossip and never add to their gossip.

Treat every instruction of your mother-in-law like an instruction from your own beloved mother. Never contradict her instructions and never backchat when speaking to her. Never say anything if she scolds you and always remember that your mother-in-law is more important than your husband's mother-in-law. Behave respectfully towards all elders like the wives of your husband's elder brothers. Adopt the same attitude towards your husband's sisters. Our beloved Rasulullaah ρ had great love for children. A woman once called for a child, telling the child that she would give him something if he came to her. In many cases where a daughter-in-law wants to live separately, it is the sisters-in-law (husband's sisters) who oppose the idea. It is rather strange that when women become mothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, they forget the benefits of living separately and can suddenly prove to anyone that there is more harm in living separately.

Regrettably, these are the same people who insist that their daughters-in-law live with them when their sons marry. How a Woman can Become her Husband's Darling

Women often have to bear the brunt of their husband's ill-treatment as well as ill-treatment from their mothers-in-law. If they follow the advices that Rasulullaah ρ outlined, Allaah I will soon place compassion for her into the hearts of her husband and her mother-in-law. May Allaah I grant every Muslim woman the ability to practise these advices. Here are four factors that will certainly create compassion in any husband's heart irrespective of his wife's level of intelligence. The husband and wife should be pious.
The wife should understand the husband's temperament.
The wife should praise the husband and have true love for him.

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[11] Allaah I says in verse 54 of Surah Naml (Surah 24), ***"It is He Who has created man from water and has appointed for him relatives by blood and relatives by marriage. Your Rabb is Ever Powerful."***

Unless and until the husband and wife both become pious, they cannot hope to be united. Allaah I says in the Qur'aan, ***"So the pious women are obedient and, in the absence of their husbands, are protective because of that which Allaah has protected."*** "Saalihaat" (pious women) as described in the above verse also refers to women who are particular about their salaah, fasting and all their other religious duties. Together with fulfilling Allaah's rights, she also fulfils the rights of her husband. A woman should neither miss any salaah nor delay it. Every wife should also make time to recite the Qur'aan and to engage in Dhikr. A woman should undertake to screen her body from every person whom Allaah I has commanded that she veil herself, even from her cousins and brothers-in-law. If a woman emerges from her house without covering herself as she should and a hundred men look at her, she will be the cause of two hundred eyes becoming the prey of Allaah's wrath. If she has been the cause of Allaah I's wrath, how can she possibly earn her husband's pleasure? Of course, Allaah's wrath can be averted from her if she sincerely repents to Allaah I and resolves to abstain from all major and minor sins.

The man who marries such a woman will remain a happy man.
If a woman becomes pious, she can attain ranks higher than those of many men and will enter Jannah before them.

Women Entering Jannah Before Their Husbands

Addressing some women, Rasulullaah ρ once mentioned that a pious woman shall enter Jannah before her husband. The head that does not bow to Allaah's commands
One should never think that the woman who roams the streets without dressing according to the Shari'ah is a free woman. Allaah I will fill the heart of such a person with peace and contentment.

In his book concerning the hoax of women's liberation, Hadhrat Mufti Taqi Uthmaani (A.R) has mentioned that the slogans of women's liberation have been used as a subterfuge to remove women from their homes and to parade them on the streets. If one looks at the occidental countries of the world, one will notice that lowly jobs have been assigned to women. Hotel staff who clean rooms, people serving customers at businesses and receptionists are predominantly women. "The head that does not bow to Allaah's commands
It is indeed strange that when a woman prepares food and serves it to her husband and children, enjoying their loving gazes and conversation, she is labelled as a backward and oppressed person. In the sight of Allaah I, a truly respectable woman worthy of immense rewards is that woman who remains indoors to diligently serve her family and manage their domestic affairs. Man's psychology has reversed. A person is either subservient to Allaah I or to Shaytaan. Addressing faithful wives, a poet says:

"When the dark night enshrouds the woman's world
While your stage is the gaze of your husband."

From the beginning of time up to the present day, women have never succeeded in overshadowing men. (2) Recognising the Husband's Temperament

The second factor by which the wife can win her husband's heart is by always taking his feelings and sentiments into consideration. Hadhrat Qaari Tayyab (A.R) has mentioned that it is compulsory for a wife to do as her husband says. A wife should obey her husband even if he instructs her to do something that she dislikes. The home will run smoothly when the wife obeys the husband and when he takes her feelings into consideration. The wife who wants her husband to be her slave should first become his slave. It is also necessary for the husband to take his wife's feelings and desires into consideration. (3) Praising the Husband and Having True Love for Him

Many women have the bad habit of always trying to find out whether relations are good or tense between a woman and her in-laws. It is unfortunate that when they return to their parents' home, women grossly exaggerate the faults of their in-laws and the hardships they experience. Eventually, an extremely ugly picture of the mother-in-law and her daughters is painted. The mother-in-law then tells her son what his wife is informing people about them. The husband then begins to drift away from his wife, often without her even realising that she was the cause. It is therefore necessary for a wife to praise her husband, his parents and his relatives when speaking about them. This attitude will foster good relations between husband and wife and when her mother-in-law and sisters-in-law find out that she praises them in front of others, their love for her will grow and they will treat her well. In addition to being a major sin, speaking ill of one's husband and in-laws violates the sanctity of the home and does not behove a good wife.

If a husband's love for his wife is lacking for some reason, praising him will increase this love substantially. Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) used to recite the following couplets when Rasulullaah ρ used to return home:

There will definitely be a large place reserved for such a wife in her husband's heart. In fact, this was one of the reasons why Rasulullaah ρ loved Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) the most. By emulating her pure lifestyle, every wife can become the focus of her husband's attention. The words of Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) were not mere words but true expressions of her feelings for Rasulullaah ρ. She also said, "If the women who taunted Zulaikha had seen Rasulullaah ρ, they would have cut their hearts instead of just their hands." When the husband is distressed and worried, the wife should do what she can to relieve his grief.

"Women are certainly Shayaateen created for (misleading) us
We seek Allaah's protection for the evil of the Shayaateen."

In response to this, his wife Hadhrat Faatima (R.A) replied using the same Arabic style of poetry:

"Women are certainly fragrant flowers created for you

Hadhrat Aatika (R.A) was married to Hadhrat Abdullaah τ the son of Hadhrat Abu Bakr τ. Loving one's husband plays a vital role in Deen because it is a means of securing Allaah's pleasure. The story of Hadhrat Ibraheem (υ)'s daughter-in-law portrays an example of how a wife ought to be grateful and praise the good in her home without mentioning the difficulties. Her behaviour pleased her father-in-law and pleased Allaah I as well. In fact, this lady was so blessed that together with

earning the du'aa of Hadhrat Ibraheem υ, Allaah I made his most beloved Rasulullaah ρ a scion of her progeny.

"If you count yourself among the daughters of this Deen of guidance
It was their love for their husbands and service to their children
It was their smooth running of the home and obedience to Allaah

A Principle to Follow for a Sound Relationship Between Husband and Wife

A woman once came to Hadhrat Umar τ and made it clear to him that she had no instinctive love for her husband. Hadhrat Umar τ explained, "Never make this known to your husband. The love of such people keeps growing despite numerous obstacles. A

Sign of True Love

A good wife cannot get any rest until her husband is happy with her. Allaah I has taught man the following du'aa in the Qur'aan:

[Surah 59, verse 10]

The hearts of husband and wife should be as clear as mirrors for each other. Because the wife's heart is softer, she should be the first to ask for forgiveness even though the fault is the husband's. If she does not apologise, the husband should do so. The

Woman who will Enter Jannah

Rasulullaah ρ then asked, "Should I inform you which of your women shall enter Jannah." When the Sahabah ψ begged to be informed, Rasulullaah ρ said, "The women who has tremendous love for her husband, who bears many children and when she gets angry or is ill-treated or when her husband becomes angry, she (takes his hand in hers and) tells him, 'My hand is in yours. If only women could understand this!

When a wife has true love for her husband, she will be unable to rest, eat or sleep after an argument. The fourth method by which a woman can capture her husband's attention is by learning how to cook well for her husband and being able to place a wonderful meal before him. The meals that a wife prepares affects the husband's heart as well as every limb of his body. The method and hygiene the wife employs to prepare his meals has a profound effect on the husband's love for her as well as on his opinion about her intelligence and skill.

Every woman should master her culinary skills at her mother's home. When a woman does this, her husband will fulfil her desires without her having to ask and will give her a choice in all matters. When a wife cooks to please her husband for Allaah's pleasure, she will earn the following three rewards:

She will be rewarded for pleasing Allaah I.
She will be rewarded for pleasing her husband.
Many women feel that they cannot do any constructive work with their children in the way, little realising that caring for their children is itself a great and noble work. They fail to realise that rearing their children and serving their husbands as great a virtue as reciting Qur'aan and making Dhikr.

If, for example, a woman can prepare chicken in ten different manners, she will be able to serve ten different dishes. It does not behove a Muslim woman to spend all

her time in the kitchen. You be pleased with me for preparing this meal for my husband's pleasure."

Be particular about cooking early in the morning immediately after the Ishraaq salaah because Allaah I has blessed the mornings for the Ummah of Rasulullaah ρ. May Allaah I grant every woman the guidance to carry out what has been mentioned. A pious woman should stay indoors. Whether your husband is home or not, you should be concerned about his welfare.
If any friend of your husband visits while he is out, inform him of you husband's absence using the least amount of words.

People are often given to thinking that the husband-wife relationship is a association confined to one's worldly affairs. The husband-wife relationship is a union that is replete with religious benefits. If a woman gets married with the intention of fulfilling an injunction of the Shari'ah, understanding that her function is to please her husband – a function which will secure Allaah's pleasure. Whatever a wife does with this intention in mind will earn her tremendous rewards. Allaah I has assigned the task of working and earning to men. Of course, a woman may employ the services of a servant if she needs to. Just as men require exercise to maintain their health, women also require the same. Hadhrat Aswad τ once asked Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) what Rasulullaah ρ used to do at home. The Domestic Life of Hadhrat Faatima (R.A)

When Rasulullaah ρ visited her after a day

Intelligent women do not waste their valuable time in play and entertainment. A skill acquired as a child remains useful throughout one's life. People who have learnt a craft need never be dependent on others. The Routine of a Pious Wife

There we have the wife comforting the children

When the husband washes and arrives
Make Jannah your home if you wish
Increase the contents of Jahannam if you wish

Elevate our honour if you wish
Or plunge us into disgrace if you wish

Be a disgrace to your era if you wish
Or transcend the limits of honour if you wish

‘Educating women about Islaam is the door to progress’
‘Educating women about Islaam is the pride of progress.’”

Learning a Lesson from the life of Hadhrat Faatima (R.A)

When Hadhrat Faatima (R.A) married Hadhrat Ali τ, the couple decided that he would work outdoors while she tended to all domestic affairs. She therefore fulfilled her tasks and served her husband with great enthusiasm and devotion. When Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) related what Hadhrat Faatima (R.A) had told her, Rasulullaah ρ sent for Hadhrat Faatima (R.A). One can well imagine the grief that Rasulullaah ρ felt when he heard about his daughter’s hardship.

[Mufti Taqi Uthmaani in his book concerning the rights of husbands]
The wife owes three rights to her husband with regard to his wealth. It was therefore the practice of women of the past to remind their husbands every morning to stay away from unlawful earnings. Every wife should also treat her children well and display great love and mercy towards them. One of the most important responsibilities of a wife is that she should not waste her husband’s wealth. We will now narrate a few incidents about some pious Muslim wives who spent generously in Allaah’s path.

Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) Spends on Others

Hadhrat Muhammad bin Munkadir (A.R) once asked Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) for some money which he desperately needed. A Wife who Used to Spend on Allaah’s Pious Bondsmen

A Woman who Entertained Guests

Thinking that the goat had escaped from her husband, the lady went out to see, but found her husband already skinning the slaughtered goat. The woman then addressed her children saying, “This goat feeds on (what is in) your hearts. This name stuck so well that people eventually forgot her real name. It is the responsibility of every wife to utilise her husband’s wealth for good causes. An Important Right of the Husband that Women are Heedless About

Hadhrat Jaabir τ narrates that Rasulullaah ρ’s gaze once inadvertently fell on a woman. He immediately proceeded to his wife Hadhrat Zaynab (R.A) and satisfied his need. He then addressed the Sahabah ψ saying, “A woman appears as a Shaytaan. When any of you sees a woman who attracts him, he should immediately go to his wife because she has exactly what the other woman has.” Rasulullaah ρ has likened women to Shaytaan because the natural attraction they possess presents the ideal opportunity for Shaytaan to deviate man. Muslims men should guard their gazes because when their eyes meet those of a non-Mahram woman, Shaytaan exploits the opportunity to destroy their lives in this world as well as in the Aakhirah. It is therefore necessary for every wife to respond to her husband’s need for intercourse, whether he asks directly or indirectly. When a woman implements this

attitude, she will be benefiting her husband from a physical, religious, mental, medical and spiritual perspective.

Muslim wives who make frivolous excuses of this nature should remember that if their husbands satisfy themselves in Haraam avenues, they (the wives) will also be liable for the sin because they had been the cause of it.

A Woman Should Respond Immediately

Hadhrat Talq bin Ali τ narrates that Rasulullaah ρ said, "When a husband calls his wife to satisfy his sexual need, she should respond even if she is busy at the oven." Allaah I has instilled passionate instincts in every man and woman. Allaah I has also prescribed the means by which man can fulfil these instincts. The primary objective of Nikaah is to satisfy these instinctive passions in men and women. Rasulullaah ρ once told the Sahabah ψ that a person is rewarded for satisfying his sexual desire with his wife. Rasulullaah ρ said, "Therefore, if a couple refrains from unlawful relations and fulfil their needs within the command of Allaah I, they will be rewarded." The Woman Whom the Angels Curse

The husband sees to the needs of his wife and provides for her from his hard-earned wealth. The husband-wife relationship is extremely special because they can fulfil their needs with none other but themselves. Rasulullaah ρ understood human psychology very well and identified all man's needs. Hadhrat Abu Hurayra τ narrates that Rasulullaah ρ said, "A woman who spends the night away from her husband's bed (to avoid cohabiting with him) shall dwell under the curses of the angels until she returns." Similarly, if a woman leaves her husband's bed against his wishes, she will also be subjected to the curses of the angels until she returns. If the wife's attitude towards sex is cold, if she expresses reluctance towards it or if she oversteps the limits of bashfulness, the couple's relationship will be stifled and eventually killed.

Rasulullaah ρ also said, "May Allaah's curse be on the woman who says, 'I'm coming, I'm coming.' Muslim narrates a Hadith from Hadhrat Abu Hurayra τ in which Rasulullaah ρ says, "By the Being in whose control is my life! When a husband calls his wife to bed and she refuses, He in the heavens becomes angry with her until her husband is happy with her."

This narration makes it clear that Allaah's enemy is most pleased when a rift is created between two hearts containing the love of Allaah I and His Rasul ρ. Insha Allaah, this will disgrace Shaytaan and he will leave the house.
Allaah I will then make such a wife beloved to her husband.

Nafl Fasts may be Observed Only With the Husband's Permission

Hadhrat Abu Hurayra τ reports that Rasulullaah ρ said, "It is not permissible for a woman to fast (an optional fast) in the presence of her husband unless he permits her. Of course, a good husband would never prevent his wife without good reason. Obeying One's Husband is more Important than Nafl Acts of Worship

A Mother's Advice to her Daughter

It is especially important for mothers to display respect for their husband in front of their daughters because their daughters will treat their husbands exactly how they

see their mothers treating their fathers. Men marrying such women have attained kingship even though they may be living in shacks. *"Beloved daughter!*

"Dear daughter!

"My precious daughter! May Allaah I grant every Muslim wife the ability to practise the advices given above. A wife should never appear shabby in front of her husband because this will destroy his love for her.
May Allaah I grant every woman the ability to practise.
If a woman wants the love of her husband, she should forgive and forget his faults and errors.

Never complain. Rather be grateful to Allaah I for whatever you have. Patiently bear the difficulties that come your way from your sisters-and-mother-in-law. Incessant complaining irritates the husband and this will diminish the love he has for his wife in his heart.

We will now present some extremely precious principles for every wife to follow so that she may live happily with her husband and her mother-in-law. Beloved daughters! Allaah I had intended that you will soon leave this home. Your parents are doing nothing wrong because this is the command of Allaah I and the practice of our beloved Rasulullaah ρ. Precious daughters! Never! If you behave in this manner, people will overlook your errors because when a sensible and careful person slips up, people are forgiving. How to Live in your Parent's Home

Serve your parents with heart and soul and never cause them any grief. Never nag and never demand. If you do them a good turn, never remind them about it. If not, you should never think that you are capable.

Dear daughters! The Manner of Living with One's Husband

Dear daughters! Always remember that the relationship between husband and wife is not like loose threads that can be separated whenever one wishes. If the couple's hearts are united, they can share no greater bounty and it is as if Jannah has come down to earth for them. Every woman has the ability to make her marriage work. Capturing Your Husband's Heart

It is therefore imperative that every wife does her level best to learn the method of capturing her husband's heart. Wise people have mentioned many methods of harnessing one's husband's love. A woman who regards serving her husband and loving him as an important aspect of her Imaan has no option but to practise the guidelines which will be mentioned hereunder.

Regard your husband as a wealthy man even though he may be poor.

When a woman begins telling her husband all her day's problems as soon as he walks in, his eating, sitting and resting will become difficult. Together with upsetting him, such behaviour is also displeasing to Allaah I.

If Allaah I grants you the ability, assist him in his work.

Insha Allaah, Allaah I will soon show you easier days.

If your savings are meagre, never stop saving with the thought that it is too little. Whatever your husband brings home is in your care. Your poor husband will have no say in the matter. A skilled and capable wife is never distressed.

Men appreciate women who are competent and who are able to organise affairs well. It is unfortunate that many beautiful women lack these qualities and have thus become worthless in the eyes of their husbands. Irrespective of how unattractive or imprudent a woman may be, she will certainly win over her husband's affections if she is obedient.

It is not difficult for every wife to apply all the above principles in her life, thereby earning the devoted love of her husband. It is really the women who strive to please Allaah and who serve their husbands with love and gentleness who become the beloved of their husbands and whose husbands would give their lives for them. The husbands of such women will do anything to please them and are proud of them. Intelligent women avail themselves of such behaviour while foolish women are deprived of it.

As an intelligent woman you should always bear the following in mind:

Do not speak ill of your husband in front of another.
You can even win over a temperamental husband by diligently serving him.
Stay away from the company of evil and ill-mannered women.

Every Woman's Wish

Despite having this desire, many women fail to make any efforts to realise this desire. Not only are such women disrupting the homes of their husbands, but they are destroying the lives of both their families.

Learn to Love Your Husband

Every woman should learn to love her husband. Irrespective of how evil, ill-mannered or dim-witted her husband may be, the wife holds in her hand the keys to set her husband straight. There are numerous examples of women who have successfully changed their husbands for the better. There are no obstacles for the patient woman.
When a woman sincerely loves and serves her husband, it is impossible for him to stray away from her.

Conquer His Heart

Your husband's heart will be conquered by the resounding throb of love emanating from the deepest recesses of your heart.
Insha Allaah, this will ensure a happy marriage.

Secure Fasten the Bond of Love

Allaah I has created the bond of love between people and this bond can only be secured with the injunctions of the Shari'ah. To conquer her husband's heart, a

wife should ensure that she introduces into herself everything that her husband likes. Sadly, there are many men whose wives are extremely attractive, yet they will be found in the company of women much less beautiful. What is required is the art of knowing what pleases the husband. A wife should know how to capture her husband's interest. What Do Men Like?

While some men prefer women with make-up, others prefer women without it. While some men prefer fashionable women, others prefer simple women. It is therefore necessary for women to inculcate such qualities within themselves which their husbands would value and appreciate. One of the primary features men love is beauty. Men also look for innocence and an appreciative nature in women. They would dare not approach women who harbour malice in their hearts, who deceive and whose hearts bear ill-feelings against others. When a woman's heart is filled with malice and ill-feelings against others, her husband loses confidence in her and other people also lose their respect for her.

Men do not want their wives to be more intelligent than themselves. A wife should therefore not extol her academic achievements when these would make her husband feel inferior.

A man may stand in awe of a highly educated woman, but he can seldom love her. Men feel content when their wives are obedient and their love for them grows tremendously. Men detest women who are impudent, immoral and stubborn.

Men also like women who are forgiving and who love them despite their faults.

Men love women who are compassionate towards others; women who are naturally tender and who would take orphans into their laps because they feel them sorry. Men adore women who are lively and happy because such an attitude makes others also feel happy. Women should always bear this proverb in mind and she will be her husband's best doctor.

The most cherished quality in a woman is her chastity. A woman's beauty sparkles with added radiance when she is chaste. Only such a woman can remain loyal to her husband. A woman lacking chastity will be worthless to her husband even if she is bestowed with immense physical beauty.

When a woman does as she pleases without caring how others feel, she will fall from her husband's esteem. Obey your husband and the world will obey you. Conquer your husband's heart and your home will be reminiscent of Jannah.

A Dialogue Between Mother and Daughter

Never shall I forget you, O mother
Never shall I forget

The Mother's Reply

"Listen well, O my broken-hearted one
This period dawns on every child
For all people in the world alive

The one whom you call mother with such love
Never speak against them an ill word
This blissful life, this leisure
This carefree life without sorrow
May Allaah grant you happiness where you are headed
May Allaah grant you everything you want and need
Love, contentment, happiness and all on which your heart can feed
For the home of your parents should your heart never yearn
Never forget it, never disregard it my treasured dear
Always serve your husband well
If you remember what I have just said to you
In certain ways the husband is unto his wife

Disputes Between Mothers-and-Daughters-in-Law

The daughter-in-law therefore has no option but to live with her parents-in-law. As a result, the entire family lives together and the mother-and-daughter-in-law are separated from each other only when one of them leaves this world. The disputes and problems between mothers-and-daughters-in-law will continue until the custom of living together is abolished. The husband then becomes caught in an impossible situation. If he sides with his mother keeping her rights in mind, his wife becomes upset. The husband is now torn apart. To save a man from such a situation, it is necessary to search for a solution that would eradicate disputes between mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law altogether. If a woman does this, she will be saving herself from much grief and heartache.
To achieve this, it is also important for the husband and the father-in-law to read books like "A gift to the husband and wife" by Maulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi (A.R) and "The rights of wives" by Moulana Muhammad Taqi Uthmaani (Daamat Barakaatuh).

Disputes Caused by the Mother-in-Law

The mother-in-law plays the role of a ruler. The mother-in-law demands control of not only her husband's money, but also wants to control her son's money. Problems arise between her and her daughter-in-law when the daughter-in-law also expects her share of the money.

Some mothers-in-law become suspicious that their daughters-in-law are sending things from their husbands' homes to their mothers.

Mothers-in-law seem to forget that they were also daughters-in-law at some stage of their lives. When they keep this in mind, they will realise that their daughters-in-law are also women with desires and feelings.

Because many women have a harsh and uncompromising nature, they treat their daughter-in-law very cruelly. Disputes Caused by Sisters-in-Law

Disputes Caused by the Daughter-in-Law

A daughter-in-law is generally naïve and inexperienced. How Every Mother-in-Law Should Think

A mother-in-law should always bear in mind that her daughter-in-law is also a human being with aspirations and feelings. She has made the sacrifice of leaving her parents home to be with her husband forever. The mother-in-law should therefore treat her daughter-in-law like her very own daughter. Just as the mother-in-law was once also a daughter-in-law, she should not forget that her daughter-in-law also enjoys the things that she once enjoyed. She should treat her daughter-in-law as she wanted her mother-in-law to treat her. While the mother-in-law has already enjoyed good times in her life, he should now give her daughter-in-law the chance.

In all probability, the mother-in-law also made the same mistakes when she was a young daughter-in-law. When she adopts this attitude, life will become pleasant for both mother-and-daughter-in-law.

A mother-in-law should bear in mind that she may not expect her daughter-in-law to do everything in the house. The daughter-in-law should never think that when her mother-in-law first met her to chose her as a wife for her son, she was extremely sweet and pleasant. How the Daughter-in-Law Should Think

Every daughter-in-law should bear in mind that if her mother-in-law is really her enemy, she would never have allowed her son to marry her and would have never allowed her to live in her home. All mothers-in-law are **not** bad. Many daughters-in-law cause tremendous difficulty for their mothers-in-law, especially in situations where the mother-in-law is dependent on her son and daughter-in-law. Every daughter-in-law should remember that although she is not a slave, Allaah I has made it compulsory for her to serve her husband. If a husband becomes blinded by his love for his inconsiderate wife and behaves disrespectfully towards his mother, how will he ever enter Jannah? It is therefore imperative for every wife to keep in mind the fact that her husband's entry into Jannah hinges on his behaviour towards his mother.

A woman will be doing a great service to her husband if she cares for his mother. The daughter-in-law should respect her mother-in-law and bear in mind the difference in their ages.

If Muslim women were religious and if they possessed sound Islaamic knowledge, we would not experience the problems we have today. A daughter-in-law should treat her mother-in-law like her own mother. In fact, she should respect her even more because while her mother is her mother, her mother-in-law is her husband's mother and she should regard her husband higher than herself. When a daughter-in-law treats her mother-in-law well, the old lady will make du'aa for her and it is with du'aas like this that people are saved from calamities and tragedies in their lives. The patience that the daughter-in-law has to exercise with her mother-in-law will save her from having to exercise patience in much more trying times. She should remember that the du'aas of her mother-in-law shall prove to be an impregnable fortress for her children. If a woman wants to bear luminaries like Rabia Basriyyah (A.R) and Rasheed Ahmad Gangohi (A.R), she should exercise patience with her irritable mother-in-law and her instigating sisters-in-law and forgive them. A

daughter-in-law must never speak ill of her in-laws when visiting her parents. A truly respectable woman is one who is respected by both her parents and her parents-in-law.

If a daughter-in-law employs the approaches mentioned above, her mother-in-law will have no reason to harass her irrespective of how harsh and uncompromising her mother-in-law may be. By the same token, if a mother-in-law practises the advices given above, her daughter-in-law will not clash with her even though her daughter-in-law may be impertinent and stubborn. We will now present to you a drama which depicts the state of affairs when a man lives with his mother, his wife, his sister/s and sister/s-in-law. If you are a daughter-in-law, you will learn that it is important to respect your mother-in-law and to abstain from behaving insubordinately with her.

If you are a mother-in-law, you will learn that it is unwise to have two daughters-in-law living with you. You may then keep yourself busy in Ibaadah and in assisting people in Allaah's path. If you are the elder sister-in-law and your husband's younger brother's wife insists that she wants to live on her own, you should not oppose her decision. May Allaah I guide us all to practise Deen properly.

May Allaah I protect us! I have lost every desire for life. The constant bickering between daughter-and-mother-in-law causes friction between husband and wife. I blame the mothers-in-law for all these problems. Too many times have I seen my mother admonish my wife for every little thing. **Afdhal Ahmad:** What can the poor wife do? Wherever, a mother-and-daughter-in-law share a house, they turn it into a pit of Jahannam. As my wife says, we are also affected by its evil presence because Allaah's curse falls on the house. In doing this, he is destroying his life and dragging his defenceless wife through hell, whereas Allaah I has placed her in your mercy and protection. Perseverant as the two may, the attitude of the mother-and-sisters-in-law will never change. I am at my wits end with this woman.

Maryam: No mother.
Bhai Sulaymaan: Where is Afdhal Ahmad's mother?
Allaah I has granted you sons, daughters and daughters-in-law. Our precious daughter-in-law gives me endless grief.
So your daughter-in-law is faultless, is she?

Nobody says that daughters-in-law are perfect. Why would I be standing here defending his wife if I had no love for him?

A surprised that women forget that they were daughters-in-law once they become mothers-in-law. **Aamina Bibi:** I would never marry my Zubayda in a family where the mother-in-law behaves like an executioner.

NOTE: You should read this drama as a sister-in-law so that you would refrain from causing harm to your brother's wife or the wives of your husband's brothers. As a mother-in-law, you should ensure that your daughter-in-law is comfortable if she has to live with you and never listen to what others have to gossip about her. If your mother has daughters-in-law, you should ensure that

you restrain her from behaving unjustly towards them. May Allaah I guide us all to the right path. Parting Advice

When a young woman leaves her home as a bride
It is as if Qiyaamah has arrived
Giving some parting advice to her departing daughter, the mother said
Greet your mother-in-law with Salaam when you arrive
Always honour your husband
Never speak in high and harsh tones
Never backchat with your husband
May Allaah bless this hour
Leaving your father, your home, your family and your town
A girl will leave for her husband's home, leaving this temporary one
Serve your husband through every pitfall
You understand well the status of your husband
The life of a happy couple is itself Jannah
Higher than your mother is your mother-in-law
And higher than your father, your father-in-law
Serve and respect them at all times
Even if you have to give your life and be killed
Stand up and express gratitude to Allaah
Ask whatever you need from Allaah
O Allaah, O Merciful and Kind

The Etiquette of Leaving Home

A good wife prepares herself to leave long before the time that her husband fixes for leaving so that they may leave in time. This causes undue difficulty for both husband and wife.

{TRANSLATION: I leave with the name of Allaah I and I trust only in Allaah I because there is no power to do good and no might to resist evil except from Allaah I}

In response to this du'aa, the wife should say:

Insha Allaah, Shaytaan will be unable to even enter their home.

A woman can therefore earn her husband's du'aas and pleasure by carrying out simple deeds like this. By doing this, she will also attain Allaah's pleasure and she will be able to bring up her children under the shade of Allaah's mercy and

benevolence. May Allaah I grant all women the ability to carry out such rewarding deeds.

<u>**The Du'aas that Women Make for Their Husbands Every Morning**</u>

{TRANSLATION: O Allaah! {TRANSLATION: O Allaah I! "I get busy cleaning the house and preparing food for my husband and my children because men do not return to dirty homes and unpalatable food."

The last woman mentioned won the prize.

If you were the tenth woman in this competition, you would do well to give the following reply:

A pious husband ensures that he does not indulge in transactions involving interest, lying, bribery, etc. A good wife also reminds her husband that man has been sent to this world not only to earn a living. By inculcating the same devotion she possessed, a woman can transform her home into a garden of Jannah.

The Etiquette of Conversing with One's Husband

Whenever the youngest wife of Hadhrat Abu Dardaa τ related any hadith from her husband, she would begin by saying, "My master narrated to me…" When speaking with her husband, a wife should bear the following in mind:

> If a wife needs to tell her husband to do something, she may tell him to do so without referring to what other men do. When referring to her husband in conversations with others, a wife should not use the pronoun "he". She should refer to her husband as "my husband" or by a title people use for him. A wife should always speak softly with her husband. We should then not fall prey to Allaah's wrath."

Whereas interrogating the husband would have only negative effects and create animosity, phasing her questions with wisdom and love will win his respect and love together with addressing the problem at hand. The incorrect approach will make matters worse and if the husband is not a considerate man, he may purposely do things to aggravate the situation.
He may start returning home even later or start beating the children more brutally.

When the wife phrases her questions more wisely, her husband's heart will soften and he will regret his ways. Irrespective of the situation, the wife should maintain her composure and take care never to raise her voice when speaking to her husband. Leaving your husband is to leave him in the hands of other women. The occasion should never arise when they tell you, "You could not live in harmony with your own husband and mother-in-law, it is no surprise that you cannot live with us as well!" Whereas a woman can bear a thousand insults from her husband, she cannot withstand a single insult from her sister-in-law. Dry bread and water in your husband's home is much better than eating Biryani in your brother's home.

Insha Allaah, the time will soon arrive when Allaah I will make her home reminiscent of a garden of Jannah.

1. Another important factor that every woman should consider when addressing her husband is that she should not phrase any sentence as a command.

If every wife could act on these pieces of advice, they will certainly see the positive difference it brings to their lives. May Allaah I guide all Muslims women to act accordingly.

What a Wife Should Never Do

1. Women often compare what their husbands give them to what their husband's brother/s give their wives so that their husbands may spend more on them. They also compare what their children get to what other fathers give their children. In doing so, they pressurise their husbands to spend beyond their means, often causing their husbands to fall deeply into debt.

The eminent Sahabi Hadhrat Mu'aadh bin Jabal τ counted such women as one of the greatest tests for men. May Allaah I save every man from such women and every woman from becoming such.

A wife never should repeatedly complain to her husband about his mother. A good wife should regard her mother-in-law as a guest who will soon be leaving. By exercising patience and treating her mother-in-law well, a woman can attain the valuable du'aas of the old lady, which will prove beneficial in this world as well as in the next.

Every woman should also bear in mind that her mother is also ageing and it should never occur that her sister/s-in-law ill-treat her mother if she ill-treats her mother-in-law. At the same time, she should also remember that people become more like children as approach the age of senility. When travelling by car, allow your mother-in-law to occupy the front seat with your husband. By pleasing her, you will also be pleasing Allaah I and when Allaah I is pleased with you, you will be short of nothing in both worlds.

If there is a fear that the mother-in-law will deprive the daughter-in-law of her share and give it to her own daughter instead, the husband should give his wife her share in private. If the mother-in-law has to object, she may be told that her daughter-in-law's mother or another relative had sent the item as a gift for her.

Especially if your mother-in-law is a widow, never leave her alone at home when you go out with your husband unless she is happy to stay behind. When a mutual relative phones, allow your mother-in-law to speak to the person as well. Of course, if the husband can afford to do so, it will be best if he could arrange a separate phone for his wife in her room and another for his mother so that each could have her privacy.

Fire will never extinguish fire. The wife who turns her husband against his parents should bear in mind that she is merely littering her relationship with her husband with thorns.

There are many women who refuse to forget even a slight altercation with their mothers-in-law. Eventually, when the husband returns tired from work, the wife bursts into tears. If the husband is a shallow-thinking person, he may scold his mother and speak to her harshly, thereby attracting Allaah's wrath to his home.

Women should therefore try to forget the little arguments that ensue with their mothers-in-law and face the night with new vigour when their husbands return so

that the men do not have to return home with the dread that all hell is soon to break lose.

An excellent wife is the wife who encourages her husband to maintain good relations with his parents, brothers, sisters and other relatives. To my mother, my beloved mother.

I have never before realised the great intensity of this love. Dear mother! Dear mother! Dear mother! Your loving daughter.

This touching letter clearly expresses the deep love that every mother has for her child and the love that every child has for his/her mother. It is therefore imperative for a wife not to complain to her husband about his mother. May Allaah I never show me nor anyone else the day when a woman makes a man fight with the one who bore him, making him forget the difficulties and hardships she endured for him. Even the Qur'aan pays tribute to the hardship that mothers endure for their children. When delivering her child, every mother puts her life at risk. Every wife should picture this supreme sacrifice that her mother-in-law made for the life of her husband. The life of this world is but a life of a few days. If you are nor living with your mother-in-law, do try to send some cooking or baking to her regularly. It is tragic that association with the Kuffaar has made our Muslim women disassociate their children from their children's paternal grandparents and paternal aunts. Remember that just as you have sisters-in-law from whom you turn your children away, you may also be a sister-in-law to some woman who may do the same to you.

May Allaah I save all women from conniving sisters-in-law who will leave no stone unturned to cause trouble for their brother's wife. One should always bear in mind that the bond between husband and wife is among the signs of Allaah's immense power. In a like manner, a woman is closest to her husband. To achieve his sinister end of separating husband and wife, Shaytaan sometimes uses the wife's relatives and sometimes the husband's relatives.

It is therefore important for a woman not to complain to her husband about her mother-in-law or sister-in-law. Many women have the evil habit of telling their family and friends everything that the husbands say and do as well as whatever his family does at home. An intelligent wife should excuse herself to tend to some activity when an argument is brewing between her husband and herself. Practising the Sunnah of Rasulullaah ρ is a great source of creating love, blessings and harmony between people. Bukhari and Muslim narrate a hadith from Hadhrat Sahl bin Sa'd τ in which he says that Rasulullaah ρ once visited his daughter Faatima (R.A). Upon arriving at her home, he did not see her husband Hadhrat Ali τ. When Rasulullaah ρ asked where Hadhrat Ali τ was, Hadhrat Faatima (R.A) informed him that she and Hadhrat Ali τ had an argument because of which he left the house. When Rasulullaah ρ sent someone to look for Hadhrat Ali τ, he was informed that Hadhrat Ali τ was sleeping in the Masjid. Hadhrat Sahl τ says that the title of Abu Turaab became Hadhrat Ali τ's favourite title.

The behaviour of Rasulullaah ρ with his son-in-law teaches a lesson to the relatives of all women, making it clear to them that they should never overreact and side with

the woman when a problem arises. Many people take their daughters/sisters away to their homes after she has had an argument with her husband, forcing the husband to go there and beg for his wife.

In a like manner, when Rasulullaah ρ separated himself from his wives for a month, Hadhrat Umar τ lifted Rasulullaah ρ's spirits by jesting, "O Rasulullaah ρ! We men of the Quraysh were always dominant over our women. Since we arrived in Madinah it seems as if our women have been influenced by the Ansaar women who dominate their men." This remark made Rasulullaah ρ smile.

Every Woman Should Think for Herself

Although it is wise to seek advice from one's pious mother, she may fail to understand the complete situation at home and the temperament of the husband. A Woman Should not Disclose her Family's Secrets to Her Husband

The sister secures permission from her husband Ahmad and also starts packing. That night, his wife again calls her sister and scolds her for informing her husband, who in turn received a tongue-lashing from his wife for "opening his mouth when he knows how sensitive his brother-in-law is". May Allaah protect the world from you

May Allaah I save all Muslim men and women from developing such habits. When the cause was investigated, it was discovered that the wife disclosed to her husband that her father always loved in fear of her mother because she was an extremely ill-tempered person. A wife should therefore never disclose her secrets to her husband and if her husband discloses his secrets to her, she should place her hand over his mouth, making it clear to him that her should tell her anything of the sort. May Allaah I guide all Muslim women to do what is right and to remain steadfast on the truth. The Couple Should Never Reveal Their Private Lives to Others

When Rasulullaah ρ was informed that people revealed such matters to others, he said, "Never do this! Describing the pristine traits of righteous women in the Qur'aan, Allaah I mentions, ***"So the pious women are obedient and they safeguard the private affairs (that take place between them and their husbands)..."***[12]

It is also important for women not to describe the beauty of other women to their husbands because this may cause their husbands to be attracted to the women described. It is also improper for women to tell their husbands about intimate details relating to non-Mahram women, such as their pregnancies, etc.

Rasulullaah ρ said, "A woman should not associate with another woman and then describe her to her husband as if he is looking at her." You may have heard several

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[12] Surah Nisaa (Surah 4), verse 34.

incidents of men divorcing their wives to marry the associates or family members of their wives. Such relationships have often started when the man's wife introduced him to the other woman or when she spoke about her to him. Women should ensure that they conceal themselves from such men at all times. In addition to this, every woman should ensure that her husband is not exposed to non-Mahram women such as her sisters, her sisters' mature daughters and his cousins.

It is not futile to reiterate that women should not praise the beauty of any non-Mahram woman to her husband. Guarding the Husband's Secrets

A wife should not disclose any of her husband's secrets. Among his most confidential secrets are the details of their love-life. Rasulullaah ρ has classified people who reveal these details as the worst of people. A wife may not reveal these details at any stage of her life.

This angered Allaah I and He revealed the following verses of Surah Tahreem to chide them: ***"If the two of you repent to Allaah, then your hearts have surely turned. However, if you two assist each other against him [Rasulullaah (sallallaahu-alayhi-wa-sallam)], then his protecting friends are Allaah, Jibra'eel and the pious believers.***

Harmonising One's Sentiments and Preferences With Those of One's Husband

A good wife makes every effort to harmonise her likes and dislikes with those of her husband. Whereas beauty and wealth are fleeting commodities, inculcating valuable qualities can never bore one's husband and cannot be lost overnight.

When a husband and wife drink each other's left-over water from the same utensil, they will be practising a Sunnah of Rasulullaah ρ. If even the most foolish man on earth gets a wife who is pleasant and eager to please him, he can easily join the ranks of the wisest of men. I praise Allaah I, I seek His assistance and invoke His choicest mercies on Rasulullaah ρ and his family. There are many women from your people whom you could have married. You have now become my master, so do as Allaah I has commanded every Muslim husband, i.e. that his wife should either be ***"retained in good faith or released in kindness."***[13] I seek forgiveness from Allaah I for myself and for you.'"

It is therefore necessary for a wife to act and think according to her husband tastes. May Allaah I make all women icons of compatibility for their husbands. If the adage is true that there is a woman behind every successful man, then the life of Qaadhi Shurayh (A.R) is an excellent example of its accuracy.

A Good Wife is Content With What Allaah Decides

In his relationship with his Creator, my husband may have pleased Allaah I so much that He has made me his reward. I am pleased with Allaah's decision for me." An extremely unattractive man by the name of Imraan bin Hittaan was

[13] Surah Baqara, verse 229.

married to a very beautiful woman. How an Intelligent Wife Should Deal With a Foolish Husband

Because a woman has natural love for her relatives and especially for her parents, she is bound to retaliate by insulting his family. Addressing a relative of his, Khaalid bin Yazeed once spoke ill of his wife's brother Hadhrat Abdullaah bin Zubayr τ.
A woman has not been created to interfere in the dealings men have between themselves. It is because of women like this that Hadhrat Sulaymaan υ remarked in one of his judgements, "An intelligent woman builds a ruined home while a foolish woman ruins a built home." If Hadhrat Ramla (R.A) had defended her brother or agreed with her husband, matters would have worsened considerably. Neither did she blot her brother's image by siding with her husband nor did she infuriate her husband by defending her brother. By employing her natural intelligence and sweet tongue, a woman can conquer the hardest man. A woman should therefore treat her husband's foolishness with a dose of love, gentleness and kind words. By employing these manners of speech, many wives will Insha Allaah solve many of their domestic difficulties.

Praising his wife's manner if speech, the famous Arab poet Bashaar bin Bard says:

Every bride should emulate the excellent manner of speech that Bashaar's wife employed. Intelligence coupled with diplomacy
Maintaining a clean and tidy home
Obedience to her husband

Every woman should be grateful to Allaah I for every quality that Allaah I has blessed her with, whether the quality be related to her inner self or her physical appearance. A woman should do everything with foresight and a conscious mind. It will not be redundant to again quote the statement of Hadhrat Sulaymaan υ who said, "An intelligent woman builds a ruined home while a foolish woman ruins a built home." Whereas an intelligent woman will introduce orderliness to a chaotic home and will be able to understand the personality of her husband, a foolish woman will disrupt an orderly home, replace its love with enmity and its tranquillity with agitation. May Allaah I save every home from such a woman. A Good Wife is Always Loyal to her Husband

A good wife always stands by her husband's side regardless of circumstances. A true wife loves her husband only for Allaah's pleasure. True love dictates that even once a woman's husband has passed away, she still adheres to the lifestyle she lived while he was alive. If a woman refuses to stand by her husband's side when he is in difficulty, his grief will be doubled. [TRANSLATION: "O Allaah I! A Good Wife Has Eyes Only For Her Husband

Another outstanding feature of a good wife is that she loves only her husband and this love is solely for the pleasure of Allaah I. Rasulullaah ρ has mentioned that a woman will enter Jannah if she passes away when her husband is pleased with her. This means that these women have eyes for none besides their husbands. A good wife should therefore have eyes only for her husband and she should not look at non-Mahram men. The lesson that every Muslim should learn from this incident is that we should seek to please Allaah I at all times regardless of what people say. A Mother's Advice to her Daughter on the Night of her Marriage

Every new bride should heed these valuable pieces of advice, which outline the rights that every wife owes to her husband.

She said, "Dearest daughter!
Remember, my daughter dear! We now leave you in Allaah's care.

May Allaah I grant every Muslim wife the guidance and ability to implement all of the above in their lives. A Father's Advice to his Daughter

Hadhrat Anas τ narrates that whenever the Sahabah (R.A) sent their daughters as brides to their husbands, they would emphasise the importance of serving the husband and fulfilling his rights. Hadhrat Abdullaah bin Ja'far bin Abi Taalib τ gave the following advice to his daughter:

When Hadhrat Farafasa bin Ahwas gave his daughter Naa'ila in marriage to Hadhrat Uthmaan τ, he advised her in the following words:

"Dearest daughter! The above quotations make it clear that Islaam strongly recommends women to beautify themselves for their husbands. It is commonly said that women are men's dolls. Hadhrat Abul Faraj Isfahaani (A.R) has mentioned that even beautiful women need to beautify themselves and keep themselves clean to win a place in the hearts of their husbands. Women should also be cautious not to allow their clothing to get soiled. The details of this will Insha Allaah be mentioned in the book "Gift to a husband". When the men of the Bani Israa'eel neglected personal hygiene, their women resorted to adultery.

The Advice of Hadhrat Maulana Muhammad Ahmad Surti (A.R) to His Daughter

Dearest daughter! You are now leaving for your husband's home. May Allaah I bless your new home. May you find happiness with your husband. May Allaah I grant both of you such great love for each other that lights the way ahead and which provides comfort for your in-laws as well.

Dearest daughter! May Allaah I guide you to uphold the honour of your parent's home when you live with your in-laws. Never allow disgrace to come to your parents or your parents-in-law. Never allow anyone to criticise the careful and loving upbringing that your mother gave you.

Dearest daughter! Keep away from arguments and disputes and Allaah I will grant you the traits of a respectable woman.

Dearest daughter! Dearest daughter! Dearest daughter! Look at your mother! Only Allaah I can grant her the ability to bear it.

Dearest daughter! If only you could see your friends today! Dearest daughter! I also entertained the hope that you would become a wife from whom good wives learn to better themselves and from whose behaviour bad wives correct themselves.

Dearest daughter! I have always regarded my home and children as a trust which Allaah I has placed in my care so that I may teach you good manners and conduct. Dearest daughter! Dearest daughter! There is no doubt about the fact that Allaah I has given men superiority over women and has allowed men to lead women. This does not allow men to dictate to women, but is intended to entrust men with the responsibility of protecting and providing for women. To maintain harmony between the couple, women have also been commanded to fulfil numerous rights that they owe to men. Dearest daughter! Dearest daughter! The first person to acquaint yourself with is your husband. Remember that Allaah I has described the husband as clothing for his wife and the wife as clothing for her husband. If I am the body, then you are the soul."

Just as clothing protect people from the elements, the wife protects the husband and vice versa. Regard your husband as your own self and guard him likewise. Always pray to Allaah I saying, "O Allaah! People are prepared to give their lives for Jannah. Hadhrat Ummu Salma (R.A) has narrated that she heard Rasulullaah ρ say that a woman will enter Jannah if she passes away when her husband is pleased with her. In another hadith, Rasulullaah ρ told women that their husbands are their Jannah or Jahannam. Dearest daughter! Every woman should therefore grab the opportunity and leave no stone unturned to keep her husband pleased. Even if a woman has a husband who is foolish, he will still be the most important person in her life because most of her time will be spent with him. The woman who has fallen from the sight of her husband has really lost this world as well as the Hereafter. A woman can rule her husband's heart only once she has won his love and affection. If a husband has no love for his wife, her status in his home will be simply like that of a maid servant.

Every husband is but a human and desires love and doting. When a husband steps into his home, he will be delighted to find his wife at the door to welcome him home. Similarly, when a wife wins her husband's heart with diligent service and after making many sacrifices, her husband will be unable to bear separating from her for even a minute. On the other hand, if a wife does nothing to please and comfort her husband, her presence in the home is as good as her absence. Such a woman cannot expect her husband to have any love for her and cannot expect him to miss her when she leaves. It is therefore only a foolish woman who will forfeit entry into Jannah merely because she does not want to serve her husband to please him. It is indeed unfortunate that there are so many women who are so short-sighted that they cannot appreciate the love of their husbands. Dearest daughter! Dearest daughter! The wife's name is eventually smeared and she is disgraced.

Every man gets married for happiness and comfort. No sensible person marries a woman merely to plague her life with difficulties. Remember that a man is at liberty to marry another woman whenever he pleases. Even if he does not remarry, he is

not forced to tolerate an impudent wife. It is the woman and the children who suffer the worst effects of a broken home.

An intelligent wife will realise that no man will undertake the many responsibilities of marriage merely to cause problems for himself and his wife. If you approach the matter with love and if you make sincere du'aa to Allaah I to make your husband understand, I am certain that Allaah I will reconcile his views with yours and conflict will be avoided. You should make du'aa to Allaah I for this after every Fardh salaah and at the time of Tahajjud. Every woman should avoid such a situation because it should never occur that a father's heart is divorced from his children. By depriving her children of their father's love, a woman is harming only herself. A mother should therefore never destroy their children in this manner.

[TRANSLATION: "O Allaah I!

[TRANSLATION: "O Allaah I!

[TRANSLATION: "O Allaah I!

[TRANSLATION: "May Allaah I always keep you smiling."]

[TRANSLATION: "O Allaah I! Even the mother will be inspired to pray for the child saying:

[TRANSLATION: "O Allaah I!

Instead of scolding the child when she cries, the mother will say:

Hugging the child with love, the uncle will say:

[TRANSLATION: "O Allaah I! [TRANSLATION: "O Allaah I!

When the child is ill in bed, the mother will say:

[TRANSLATION: "Do not worry (Allaah shall soon cure you).
This illness is a means of purification, Insha Allaah."]

Allaah I will also make such a child a good Muslim and servant of the Deen.

May Allaah I guide all mothers who have this terrible attitude. Change the children when their clothing becomes soiled.

Never allow the children to get used to being dirty or shabby.

Every mother should devote all her attention to the upbringing of her children. Mothers should also ensure that every child is not born too soon after another so that each child can be given due attention. By having several children in rapid succession, the mother becomes weak and the children are also born physically weak. In addition to this, the children are deprived of their mother's attention and their father's affection. May Allaah I instil in the heart of every mother the importance of raising her children well so that they can serve the Deen brought by Rasulullaah ρ. "Acquaint your children with good manners from young
"Delighted are the eyes of her husband when he sees his obedient wife

The modest little child is hail and healthy

NOTE: Although keeping the children and the home clean is extremely important, a woman should not spend so much time cleaning that she has no time to prepare meals or to do anything else.

Using Perfume for the Husband

A woman should regularly apply a perfume that her husband likes because perfume makes her more attractive and enhances their love. It is for this reason that wise women are always cautious that their husbands should never see them unkempt and that their husbands should never smell an unpleasant odour from them.

Perfume has such an attraction that Rasulullaah ρ prohibited women from leaving the home after applying perfume. While men's perfume has a strong smell, women's perfume ought to have a light fragrance. Rasulullaah ρ mentioned that the things of this world that he liked most were his wives, perfume and salaah, which was the coolness of his eyes. Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) narrates that a woman once asked Rasulullaah ρ about the method of taking a Fardh Ghusl (bath). Rasulullaah ρ said, "Subhaa Nallaah! By applying perfume regularly, a woman can strengthen the love between her and her husband. May Allaah I make the use of perfume a common feature in every Muslim home and free every home from physical and spiritual filth. A wife should also apply perfume on her husband because this was one of the Sunnah practices. [Muslim Vol. 1 Pg. 378]

It is therefore wise for a woman to sometimes apply perfume to her husband's body and clothing, especially before the Jumu'ah salaah or even before other Fardh salaahs. By doing these things, Insha Allaah, the couple will also share the strong bond of love that existed between Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) and Rasulullaah ρ.
Here is no harm done if a newly married couple spend some time by themselves after their marriage, especially if they are to share a home with the husband's family afterwards. By doing this, they will be earning Allaah's pleasure because as they look at each other with love, Allaah I will look at them with love and mercy.

If possible, they should spend the major portion of their honeymoon spreading the Deen of Allaah I so that the beginning of their new lives together can commence with a beginning that is in Allaah's obedience coupled with the concern of Rasulullaah ρ.

[TRANSLATION: "O Allaah I! Create between us the love that You created between Hadhrat Muhammad ε and Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A). O Allaah I!
Create between us the love that You created between Hadhrat Muhammad ε and Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A)."]

They should also make du'aa to Allaah I to bless them with pious children.

May Allaah I bless every couple with the happiness that He blessed this couple with and may every couple heed the lessons taught in this letter. *My dearest Mother*

After spending a wonderful honeymoon, I have returned to my little home that my husband had built. My husband is a wonderful man who loves me as dearly as I love him. Dear mother! You taught us the meaning of love through your life of sacrifice and planted the seed of love in out hearts with your own caring hand. I have just finished preparing a meal for my

husband who must be on his way home by now. It must be my husband. I leave you all in Allaah's care.

Your daughter

Your Husband is Either Your Jannah or Your Jahannam

Hadhrat Husayn bin Mihsin τ narrates that his aunt once came to Rasulullaah ρ to address some need. When a woman fulfils the rights of her husband, she will become worthy of entering Jannah. May Allaah I save all women from such misfortune. What are the rights that a wife owes to her husband? Seek forgiveness from Allaah I as well.

One of the greatest rights that a wife owes to her husband has been outlined in the following hadith. Rasulullaah ρ said, "Take heed! It is not permissible for any Muslim woman to talk with any non-Mahram man without concealing herself. When a woman's husband is not at home, she should never allow any non-Mahram into her house irrespective of who he is. If a husband comes home to find his wife with a non-Mahram man, he will be plagued with suspicion throughout his life even though she was completely innocent. A woman who practises the teachings of Rasulullaah ρ will have honour in this world as well as in the Hereafter.

A Comparison Between Two Women

We shall present the causes of these problems as examples of two women, so that every woman can do her best to emulate the example of the first woman and avoid being like the second woman. If every woman adopts the practices of the first woman, she will save her marriage from problems in the future. May Allaah I guide all Muslims wives to do what is right. **THE FIRST WOMAN:** She wakes up early to perform her Fajr salaah. After briefly reciting Qur'aan and making Dhikr, she starts preparing breakfast for her husband and children.

THE SECOND WOMAN: After a great effort, her husband manages to wake her up and she performs her Fajr salaah with great difficulty just as the sun is about to rise. **THE FIRST WOMAN:** She wakes up her little children, ensuring that they recite all the morning du'aas. **THE SECOND WOMAN:** She wakes up late and rushes because it is almost time for the children to start school. **THE FIRST WOMAN:** After seeing everyone off, she makes wudhu and perform four Rakaahs of Ishraaq salaah. [TRANSLATION: "May Allaah I illuminate your face, O Faatima."]

She then sees to the child. The child drinks the milk happily and stops crying. It is almost time for the children to return from school! **THE FIRST WOMAN:** She greets the children with Salaam as they arrive and kisses each one of them. At the same time, she reminds them to recite the du'aa for entering the home, viz.

THE SECOND WOMAN:. **THE SECOND WOMAN:** The eldest daughter returns from Madrasah. The husband is now irritates and, seeing the children fighting, he seizes the opportunity to vent his anger. Forcing the food down his throat, the husband laments his ill-fortune.

Seeing his beautiful and clean children, the husband is forced to kiss them both.

"Excellent," he smiles, "we shall leave after salaah Insha Allaah." Although he is bust eating, he thanks Allaah I for the excellent wife and children that Allaah I has granted him. May Allaah I grant every woman the guidance to emulate the example of the first woman. If both the husband and the wife are tired and frustrated, neither can offer any comfort to the other. If the parents cannot laugh and brighten life for the children, their lives will be merely an unfortunate existence. When a woman provides for her husband the necessary love and compassion, she will not only be a his toy in bed, but his valued advisor and trusted confidante as well. An Urdu book dealing with the status of family life in Islaam[14] mentions that when love exists between a couple, they will be able to taste the flavour of Ibaadah and find pleasure in obeying Allaah I and remembering Him. The mother who starts scolding and shouting at the children as soon as they return home is indeed extremely foolish. The advice taught in childhood remains with a child throughout his/her life.

The Perfect Wife

The man replied, "Women are of three types. True Love Between Husband and Wife

A woman can have her husband eating out of her hand by expressing her love for him and obeying him. When the Quraysh told him that if he divorced her, they would allow him to marry any woman of the Quraysh he desired, he said to them, "By Allaah! I shall never leave my wife. I would not like any other woman of the Quraysh in exchange of my wife." There is a lesson in his words for every Muslim woman.
An Arab Bedouin from the Bani Udhra tribe once married a beautiful woman. When he suffered poverty, the woman's father forcibly kept her in his home, refusing her permission to return to her husband. When the husband approached the governor Marwaan about the matter, Marwaan summoned the woman and her father. When Marwaan saw the woman, he fell in love with her and forced the husband to divorce her.
After her Iddah, Marwaan bribed her father and he married the woman.

When the Ameer summoned the husband and wife to appear before him, he also fell in love with her and wanted to marry her. He therefore asked the husband, "What do you say if I marry her?" "By Allaah! By Allaah! If only every reader could understand Arabic! If you cannot learn Arabic, you should at least encourage your children or little brothers and sisters to do so. May Allaah I bless every Muslim couple with the love and loyalty he blessed this couple. Who is a Beautiful Woman?

Regardless of the circumstances the couple face, she is always pleased with Allaah's decision for them. Remember that the true beauty of a woman lies in her obedience to her husband. Advising women about the rights of their husbands, Hadhrat Aa'isha

[14] The title of the book is "Islaam me Khaandaan kaa Maqaam".

(R.A) once said, "O gathering of ladies! The beauty of obedience attracts love. A husband will be overjoyed when he merely looks at his obedient wife and his love for her will increase all the time. It is the duty of every woman to create an atmosphere of love in her home so that her husband may never have to use the option of divorce which lies exclusively in his hands.

The more obedient a wife is, the more beautiful she will appear to her husband. Despite her abilities to manipulate situations and her powers to attract men, a woman still remains weaker than a man. A husband cannot value his wife's beauty and attractiveness when she is disobedient. It is therefore wise for every wife to remain obedient to her husband and walk the path of their life with him instead of against him.

Rasulullaah ρ has sternly warned women against disobeying their husband when he said that the salaah of two types of persons will not even pass their heads. The second is a wife who disobeys her husband. He Ibaadah will also not be accepted until she starts obeying her husband. Opening the Locks to Your Husband's Heart

It is therefore surprising when any woman asks for a Ta'weez (amulet) to build her husband's love for her.

A woman therefore has no need to resort to radical means of winning over her husband unless she happens to be married to a man whose heart is locked away from charm or if she needs something extra. By using these keys, a wife will be able create an atmosphere of true love in her home, thereby her happiness in both worlds.
Together with her personal hygiene and beauty a woman should also ensure that she maintains a high degree of cleanliness when tending to her children and home.
In this manner, her husband's opinion of her will not be tainted.

A woman's sweet voice is sufficient to melt a man's heart. When a woman uses her naturally endowed voice to tug at the chords of her husband's heart, she will never complain about her husband beating her, about him neglected her, about him not listening to her, etc. May Allaah I bless the poet who said:

A husband should never hear statements like, "You never take us anywhere!" or "Look at our house!
The more fragrant a woman is, the stronger attraction she has on men. Because the sense of smell strongly influences a person, every woman should ensure that she always applies perfumes that her husband likes. Because women have a keener sense of smell and know which perfume should be used for which occasion, a wife should apply her husband's perfume to his body. As was previously mentioned, Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) applied perfume to Rasulullaah ρ's body.

Many people think that staying away from women is an act of Ibaadah and sacrifice. If it were, Rasulullaah ρ would have been the first to do it. May Allaah I grant every Muslim the guidance to practise every Sunnah of Rasulullaah ρ. Every wife should ensure that her husband never smells an unpleasant odour on her. In short, she should make sure that her husband does not smell anything unpleasant at home.

If a woman performs salaah while her mouth is dirty and foul-smelling, the angels are revolted and stay far away. Rasulullaah ρ was extremely particular about oral hygiene. [Muslim]

Did you ever encourage your husband, brothers or sons to use the Miswaak as soon as they enter the home? Remember: "sweets eat teeth".

The importance of oral hygiene cannot be overemphasised especially because it goes a long way in strengthening the love between husband and wife. Its importance can be gauged from the following two directives that Rasulullaah ρ gave Hadhrat Ummu Sulaym (R.A) when he sent her to assess another woman for marriage. The relationship of a couple can be likened to a little kingdom with the husband as king and the wife as queen. It is therefore necessary for a wife to ensure that she does nothing to taint her husband's love for her. This is the reason why the Shari'ah instructs men to give their wives time to prepare themselves before returning home from a journey.

This principle also teaches us that if a wife expects her husband home by a certain time and he happens to return sooner than expected (even if it be from his workplace), he should try to inform her beforehand.

A wife should therefore assist her husband in taking pleasure from touching her. A kiss is more effective than a thousand advocates in convincing a man that his wife loves him. When a wife kisses her husband affectionately, he truly believes that she is exclusively his.

It is extremely unfortunate that many women neglect this important factor and kiss their husbands only when they engage in sexual relations. The Sahabiyaat (R.A) used to kiss their husbands often. To express their love and respect for their husbands on this occasion, they kissed them on the forehead.

One should also make a point of kissing one's husband when he leaves the home and whenever he returns. Unfortunate is the wife who deprives herself and her husband of this extremely sweet and enjoyable expression of love. An intelligent wife showers kisses on her husband because she knows that this is a most effective key to the locks of her husband's heart.

When a woman employs all these means of conquering her husband's heart, she will have no need to pay exorbitant fees for Ta'weezes and love potions. A study of cases where husbands have either divorced their wives, separated from them or married a second wife against their wishes will reveal that most of the women involved were negligent of using the above five keys to find their way into the hearts of their husbands. They lacked the ability to express their love for their husbands.

If the couple kiss each other for Allaah's pleasure, they will also be rewarded in the Hereafter. Of course, attaining the pleasure of Allaah I is the greatest reward.

The Etiquette of Writing a Letter to Your Husband

A husband greatly values a letter from his wife when he is out on a long journey and his children are small. Thereafter, you should praise Allaah I, convey Durood and

Salaams to Rasulullaah ρ. Instead of taking your husband's name, address him with terms such as "My beloved husband", "The joy of my life", "Sweetheart", etc.

To my most beloved husband and most honoured companion ....
From your loving wife ....

May Allaah I shower His special mercies, blessings and peace on Hadhrat Muhammad ε, after whom there shall be no prophet.

Always ask your husband to make du'aa for you and your family. If your husband is away on business, remind him about his obligations to the Deen. If your husband has left to spread Deen, give him encouragement to remain steadfast.

May Allaah I keep you safe wherever you are and may He return you safely home very soon.

Your loving wife

It seems as if the world's anguish has enveloped me
My heart has lost hope and my home is lifeless
For Allaah's sake, do not be so forgetful

Pinning One's Hopes Only in Allaah I

A Muslim should not pin any hopes in people. It is especially important for a good Muslim wife not to pin her hopes in her husband, her father, her brothers, her mother-in-law, her sisters-in-law or anyone else. Remember that no one can give anything without Allaah I's command. Everything that any person possesses is from Allaah I. It often happens that a woman marries a wealthy husband and expects to receive many things from him. One should ask all one's needs only from Allaah I. If Allaah I grants something, none can withhold it and if Allaah I withholds something, none can grant it. Hadhrat Imaam Ahmad (A.R) used to make the following du'aa:

[TRANSLATION: "O Allaah!
After completing his salaah, the Khalifa made du'aa to Allaah I before turning to the poor man. When a wife constantly asks from her husband, she falls from his esteem. If it does occur that a wife desperately needs something which the husband is not providing, she may suggest to him saying, "I feel that this is needed in our house. Rasulullaah ρ has mentioned, "When you need to ask for something, ask from Allaah I and when you ask for help, ask only from Allaah I."

Even if one's need is something small, one should ask it only from Allaah I. Allaah I gives and never tires of giving.

A Good Turn is Never Forgotten

A wife should think that when she leaves this world, her husband will not forget the service she gave him and will always make du'aa for her. Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) would say that from all the wives of Rasulullaah ρ, she envied Hadhrat Khadeeja

(R.A) the most even though she had never seen her. When Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) told Rasulullaah ρ that he speaks of Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) as if there is no other woman like her, he extolled her virtues and added, "My children were also from her. The best woman of previous times was Maryam bint Imraan and the best woman of our period is Khadeeja bint Khuwaylid." [Bukhari, Muslim, Tirmidhi]

Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) also narrated that she envied Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) more than any other wife of Rasulullaah ρ because he thought of her so often. Once, when Rasulullaah ρ spoke of Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A), Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) asked him why he thought so often of her when Allaah I had given him better wives. Rasulullaah ρ replied, "By Allaah! The wives Allaah I gave me after her are not better than her. Allaah I has given me children through her and not through any other wife." The life of Rasulullaah ρ clearly displays the saying that a good turn is never forgotten. May Allaah I assist every woman to abstain from every sin and to hasten towards good deeds. There is a Great Woman Behind Every Successful Man

When dealing with her husband, a wife should be loving, gentle, patient, vibrant, methodical, resolute and smiling. At the same time, a woman should make every effort to remove the love of this world from the hearts of all those around her. Such women are themselves great leaders.

If we analyse the accomplishments of Rasulullaah ρ, we will definitely find the input of Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) and his other pure wives. Whereas Allaah I has granted breasts to women for the purpose of suckling their children, today's women have corrupted its role by using them as showpieces in night-clubs and on the streets.

Remember that the benefits of breast feeding are not only restricted to filling the child's stomach, but it is via this means that Allaah I transfers the character traits of the mother and her family to the child. A great mother is required to raise a great child. A great mother is one who gives the child her own milk, who showers the child with her love and whose children have complete confidence in her and complete reliance on Allaah I.

A wife should run her home so well that the husband does not have to worry about anything pertaining to these affairs. In this way, he will be able to use his time to serve Allaah's Deen.

"If our women were like those women who passed, women would have been better than men."

The Description of a Perfect Wife

When a person resolves to lead a pious life, Allaah I makes it easy for her. If possible, perform two Rakaahs salaah before continuing so that Allaah I may make it easy for you. Make du'aa to Allaah I saying, "O Allaah! **The perfect wife** is she who provides encouragement for her husband, she who behaves intelligently, she

who turns her husband's attention towards her, who wins his heart and who showers her love and compassion on him.

When a husband does not find comfort with his wife, Shaytaan will turn his attention towards other women.

On the contrary, a good and pious woman is the light of her home and enjoys the status of a queen in her home.

The perfect wife is she who encourages her husband to carry out good deeds. Addressing all men, a woman once said, "The true hero among you is the one whom us women cannot entice towards sin." The perfect wife has the deep-rooted fervour within her to assist her husband and to cooperate with him. In fact, the husband and wife should both share this commitment and should be prepared to make sacrifices for each other. The perfect wife is prepared to dedicate her life to her husband. She has made up her mind to live for her husband's pleasure instead of for her own pleasure. Whatever she does should be according to her husband's liking. This quality of a woman is sufficient to win her husband's heart and to give him peace of mind. May Allaah I save us all from such damnation. Salaah

Every Muslim woman should be particular about keeping her body concealed from non-Mahram men. If ten non-Mahram men look at a woman walking about without covering her hair, twenty eyes have been subjected to Allaah's wrath. The woman has thus become a cause of attracting Allaah's wrath her way. It is unfortunate that many Muslims actively attract Allaah's wrath by encouraging the custom where women are expected to shake hands with their brothers-in-law, the uncles of their husbands and other non-Mahram members of the family. Rasulullaah ρ has mentioned that among the inmates of Jahannam shall be women that are naked despite being dressed. [Muslim]

Every woman walking the streets without Hijaab is perpetrating a grave injustice to every other woman because even if a man looks at such a woman by mistake, the thought of her being his wife may enter his heart. It is only a heartless and cruel woman who would parade in front of another woman's husband to attract him.

When a wife allows her husband to mix freely with other women, she is exposing the family to ruin. I wonder if…" Women like this should bear in mind that people who cause disputes in the homes of others will be unable to save their own homes from disputes. Such a woman should beware that her husband does not become attracted to another woman, leaving her as a divorcee. May Allaah I save all Muslim homes from such problems and may He grant every Muslim woman the guidance to don the Shar'ee Hijaab. The harms of men looking at women are too numerous to mention. As mentioned earlier, a person who earns Allaah's wrath cannot expect contentment in her life.

Otherwise, the bride is experiencing great difficulty with her in-laws. It should be borne in mind that no Ta'weez and no du'aa can remove Allaah's punishment. Insha Allaah, Allaah I will alleviate her difficulty.

If a woman decides to change her life and don the Hijaab, her days of flaunting her assets and flouting Allaah's commands will be preserved on paper or on film. Because a woman was filmed, she will become the cause of thousands of men sinning during her lifetime as well as long afterwards.

Remember that love and peace in a home can be attained only by pleasing Allaah I because every person's heart is in Allaah's control. Although a woman may think that she is pleasing her husband in this way, the ill-effects of such places will soon drive the couple apart at some stage of their lives if not sooner.

The hearts of mankind are completely in Allaah's control. When a woman adopts the permissible means of beautification, Allaah I will cement the love for her in her husband's heart from the very first night. Rasulullaah ρ has mentioned that a woman is akin to an adulterer when she applies perfume and leaves her home, passing by people who can smell her fragrance.[15]

Islaam does not permit a woman to walk about out of her home wearing perfume, especially when she has to pass men. A woman should therefore be very cautious about her behaviour. It is unfortunate that many women are fanatical about clothing. A man in Bangladesh distributes free saris to women every year. The poor women left their homes to get saris but returned only in their Kafns (burial shrouds). It is necessary that every woman realises that she has to be conscious about her husband's financial situation when spending on clothing and jewellery. Even if a woman's husband is wealthy, she should spend as little as possible on herself and use the rest for the causes of Deen.

It is therefore not advisable for any Muslim woman to visit such places."

Eventually, the effect of their sins causes their husbands to lose interest in them. They then become like the many Kaafir women who attend to them at such salons, who neither have any interest in their husbands and whose husbands have no interest in them. They lead separate lives and share only the same home. How can such women make a new bride attractive for her husband when they have not succeeded in winning their own husbands? Muslim women should not allow such women to lay a hand on them.

If the salon is staffed by men or if men visit as well, there can be no doubt that the Muslim woman visiting there is causing Allaah's wrath and curses to shower down on herself.

A Muslim woman should care for her beauty by herself at home. As already mentioned, Allaah I creates the attraction within the husband's heart and it is He who unites their hearts. This He will not do if the woman is disobedient to Him.

Every woman should try to memorise these couplets. She should avoid the company of evil women and women who are extravagant. When a woman is pressurised into such a situation, she should remember that she is not just an ordinary woman. She is the daughter of illustrious souls like Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A) and Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A). Children of worth, who will be assets to the Ummah cannot emerge from the homes of such women. Every Muslim mother should have reliance only in Allaah I

[15] Ahmad Vol. 4 Pg. 414, Ibn Khuzayma Vol. 3 Pg. 91, Nas'ee Vol. 8 Pg. 53, A'wanul Ma'bood Vol. 11 Pg. 230.

and devote herself to her husband. May Allaah I grant every Muslim adult and child the ability to practise Deen in its totality and spread it throughout the world. One should remember that all conditions come from Allaah I and Allaah I sends conditions to people according with their deeds. A woman should never be jealous of her sisters-in-law, be they her husband's sisters, her brothers' wives or her husband's brothers' wives. Shaytaan also makes her jealous of the way that her sisters-in-law are treated by their husbands. To be safeguarded from such deception, a woman should console herself with the thought that whatever people have comes from Allaah I. She should think that if she needs something that others have, she should ask Allaah I for it instead of burning her heart. Allaah I will soon grant her what she wants. May Allaah I save every Muslim from jealousy and from every other spiritual diseases. If one person's advice does not solve the problem, other people should be consulted, even if they are family members.

This often occurs when the husband is displeased with his wife's looks. The thought of separating should never enter your mind. If from the beginning the couple strongly feel that they will be unable to make up their marriage, the woman should be cautious to avoid falling pregnant. The great extent of this reward can be gauged from the fact that obedience to one's husband is second only to obedience to Allaah I and obedience to Rasulullaah ρ.

The best favour a wife can do for her husband is to do what he pleases.
Endure his reprimands and constantly make du'aa to Allaah I to cement the love between you and your husband. Fortunately, her mother was a wise and pious woman. She said to her daughter, "Dear, your husband is still young and very inexperienced. A Muslim wife should therefore never lose hope in Allaah's mercy. Allaah I has so often bonded people who were arch enemies, making them bosom friends. Many disputes between husband and wife arise when one of them does not respond immediately to the other's call. Among the people who Rasulullaah ρ cursed are the "Musawwifaat". Eventually, when they do arrive, their husbands are already fast asleep. Of course, it is necessary to bear in mind that whereas men are quickly aroused, women need time and foreplay before she is ready for intercourse. Here are a few guidelines to alleviate your husband's worries. Ask Allaah I to forgive yours and your husband's short comings every morning and evening. Also encourage your husband to do the same.

Encourage your husband to do the same.

Dissention between a couple is commonly caused by mothers-in-law and sisters-in-law. From the numerous cases of divorce, separation and disputes between couples that have been reported to the Daarul Ifta, it has been noticed that most of them have been caused by interferences from a woman's mother-in-law or sisters-in-law viz. her husband's brothers' wives or her husband's sisters.

The Shayaateen make tireless efforts to separate husbands from their wives and they have a remarkable level of success. However, they are unable to influence the lives of those couples whom Allaah I showers with His mercy.

If a daughter-in-law is having problems with her mother-in-law who is dependant on her, arrangements should be made so that the daughter-in-law is able to cook by herself and provide three meals for her mother-in-law. Of

course, if the mother-in-law is happy to live with another daughter-in-law, she may do so if the other daughter-in-law is also happy with the arrangement. May Allaah I grant happiness to every couple and transform every strained situation in their homes into joy and pleasure. A Valuable Lesson for Every Good Wife

The slave then focussed her attention to Allaah I and said, "O Allaah I! Just as the slave woman expressed loyalty and obedience to her master, so too should every wife do everything to please her husband, even though she may have to sacrifice her own pleasures in doing so. She should do everything with the thought in mind that pleasing her husband pleases Allaah I. When Allaah I is pleased with a person, no difficulty is insurmountable.

May Allaah I save every Muslim from perpetrating Haraam. Never Shake Hands With Non-Mahram Men

The intrinsic quality of a good woman is that she never raises her gaze to look at non-Mahram men, never greets them and certainly never shakes their hand. Women should always bear in mind that a perfect lifestyle can be ruined when Allaah I is displeased with one just as a ruined lifestyle can be made perfect when Allaah I is pleased with one.

Remember that when Allaah's commands are violated, the home will be deprived of love and blessings.

A woman should only try to explain her reasons to women who are willing to understand. Displeased with their wives, they will start arguments at home and ruin the entire family's life. Therefore, by shaking the hands of non-Mahram men, a woman will be doing a great injustice to the wives of these men. Rasulullaah ρ's Advice to Women

Addressing a gathering of women, Rasulullaah ρ said, "O assembly of women! When the women enquired the reason for so many women entering Jahannam, Rasulullaah ρ replied, "Because women curse often and are ungrateful to their husbands." [Muslim]

In this hadith, Rasulullaah ρ advised women to avoid falling into Jahannam by spending abundantly in charity. In another hadith, Rasulullaah ρ mentioned that Sadaqah cools Allaah's anger just as water extinguishes fire.

Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) narrates that Rasulullaah ρ once delivered a sermon for the women. He said, "O believing women! [Muslim Vol. 2 Pg. 714]

A Muslim woman should therefore give gifts to the women of her husband's family, even if it means preparing a dish for them. However, her intention should be to please Allaah I.
Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A)'s sister Hadhrat Asma (R.A) asked, "O Rasulullaah ρ! I have nothing to give in charity except that which my husband Hadhrat Zubayr gives me.

When the Sahabah ψ asked the reason for this, Rasulullaah ρ told them that it was because women forget the good done to them and are ungrateful to their husbands. [Bukhari and Muslim]

This trait that Rasulullaah ρ described is commonly seen among women. Because Rasulullaah ρ saw so many women in Jahannam, he did prescribed a solution for the women of his Ummah. Even if they do, they make their husbands spend on their behalf. If a woman does spend herself, she often takes the money from her husband rather than use her own wealth. The pious person will then take this person by the hand and plead to Allaah I saying, "O Allaah I! Allaah I will then forgive the person and enter him into Jannah as well.

It is therefore necessary for Muslim women to open their hearts and to stop refilling their refrigerators all the time. May Allaah I bless you." When Rasulullaah ρ arrived and asked if there was something to eat, Hadhrat Ummu Salma (R.A) sent her servant to get the meat from the niche. Every woman should therefore develop the habit of spending generously in charity. Similarly, if Allaah I grants one a motorcycle when he has only a bicycle, he should give the bicycle away if he can afford to do so. The same applies if one has a motorcycle and Allaah I grants him a car.

When you give something away for Allaah's pleasure, Allaah I replaces it by at least ten fold. If you keep the extras without having any use for it, what reply will you give Allaah I when you die?

Islaam desires that the Muslim society functions like a single family unit. If you cannot afford this, take the fruit secretly into your house and do not allow your child to eat the fruit outside where the neighbour's child may see.

Rasulullaah ρ said, "A one who believes in Allaah I and the Last Day ought to honour his neighbour."
[Bukhari and Muslim]

A Wife With Salaah

Hadhrat Abu Hurayra τ narrates that Rasulullaah ρ said, "If a woman performs her five daily salaah, fasts during Ramadhaan, safeguards her chastity and obeys her husband, she will have a choice of entering Jannah from whichever door she pleases." Among the qualities that take a woman to Jannah, Rasulullaah ρ has listed salaah as the first priority. If a woman is experiences with her husband or her in-laws, she should make du'aa to Allaah I to soften their hearts and to mend their relations.

Stealing From One's Salaah

Astonished, the Sahabah ψ asked, "O Rasulullaah ρ! Rasulullaah ρ replied, "By not performing Ruku and Sajdah properly." If possible, it is advisable to recite it five, nine, eleven or twenty-one times. Thereafter, recite:

It often occurs that while many women regularly perform their salaah, they delay its performance. Many women end up perform Zuhr during the time of Asr and Asr during the time of Maghrib. Perform your salaah on time and at a leisurely pace.

Performing salaah properly and on time will earn Allaah's pleasure and du'aas after such salaah is more likely to be accepted. It is rather those women who do not perform their salaah who should be ashamed.

If a woman missed any salaahs in this manner, she has to perform the Qadhaa for all of them.

1. Every woman should do her best to learn to recite the Qur'aan correctly. Even though a woman may not be able to perfect her recitation until she dies, she will Insha Allaah be resurrected with those who recited the Qur'aan properly if she sustained the effort to learn proper recitation throughout her life.

One should also read books concerning the salaah of a female so that one's salaah becomes like the salaah that Rasulullaah ρ taught the Ummah.

If a woman is conscious about the ruling pertaining to menstruation and if she is careful, she will not have to miss any salaahs. At the same time, one should make sincere du'aa to Allaah I that He should guide every Muslim on earth to perform salaah regularly and correctly.

Of course, non-Mahram men and women should be allowed to sit together.

Every woman should make an attempt to read this valuable book.

A. When dawn broke, she would make du'aa to Allaah I saying, "O Allaah! Hadhrat Ujra (A.R) was a blind woman who used to spend the entire night awake in Ibaadah. O Allaah!

The Salaah of a Woman

When Commencing Salaah

A woman does not raise the hands up to the earlobes as men do.

A woman should recite silently in all salaahs.

A woman should bow down only until her hands reach her knees and not completely as men do.

1. If possible, it is advisable to recite it five times, seven times, nine times, eleven times, etc in odd numbers.

{TRANSLATION: "O Allaah!

The above is merely a brief discussion of a woman's salaah.

Making Du'aa

Du'aa After the Fardh Salaah

Begin the du'aa by first praising Allaah I profusely. Make du'aa that Allaah I guides the non-Muslims to Islaam and that Allaah I grants safety and comfort to all suffering Muslims.

If Allaah I grants you the ability to perform Tahajjud salaah, do not pass up this opportunity to engage in du'aa. Whereas people become angry when you keep asking from them, Allaah I gets pleased as you ask more from Him. Make a firm resolution that you will not ask from none besides Allaah I, not even from your husband, brothers or father. Remember that everyone is dependent on Allaah I and whatever people have with them has come from Allaah I. In fact, even if you are thirsty, first ask Allaah I to quench your thirst before drinking water because the water will be able to slake thirst only by Allaah's command. Ask your every desire from Allaah I, even while walking about.

An Excellent Du'aa For Every Woman

[TRANSLATION: "O Allaah!
For example, she may say, "O Allaah! O Allaah!
Grant me a pious husband."]

Because association with other women is often the cause of problems, it is also necessary for a woman to make du'aa to Allaah I to save her from such problems. For example, she may say, "O Allaah! O Allaah! O Allaah!

The Du'aa after Marriage

[TRANSLATION: "O Allaah I! Create between me and him the love that You created between Hadhrat Muhammad ε and Hadhrat Khadeeja (R.A). O Allaah I! Create between us the love that You created between Hadhrat Muhammad ε and Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A)."]

[TRANSLATION: "O Allaah!
Join my husband and I in Jannah as You have joined us in this world."]

[TRANSLATION: O Allaah! Make me a delight to my husband's eyes in this world as well as in the Aakhirah."]

[TRANSLATION: O Allaah! Make me a wife who assists her husband in his faith."]

[TRANSLATION: O Allaah! Make me a wife who obeys You as well as my husband. Make me a pious wife, one who pleases her husband when he looks her and one who safeguards her chastity as well as his possessions and children in his absence."]

Recite the above du'aas after every Fardh salaah as well as at the time of Tahajjud. If Allaah I grants these bounties to a woman, she and her family will enjoy blissful lives in this world as well as in the Aakhirah.

Du'aas for Protection From an Evil Husband and an Cruel Mother-in-law

Every girl and her parents should always make du'aa to Allaah I to safeguard her from an unkind husband, a cruel mother-in-law and an unpleasant family of in-laws.

[TRANSLATION: "O Allaah! [TRANSLATION: "O Allaah! I seek Your protection from a husband who may cause harm to befall me."]

[TRANSLATION: "O Allaah! I seek Your protection from every woman (mother-in-law, sister-in-law) who may cause harm to befall me."]

[TRANSLATION: "O Allaah I! Besides the above du'aas, the Ahadeeth have reported many other du'aas that are effective to secure a good and pious husband as well as good children.
If Muslim women read a part of these books daily and sincerely make the du'aas mentioned in them, Muslim homes will be enveloped in Allaah's mercy and the children of these homes will Insha Allaah become shining stars of Islaam.

The best formula for creating love between a couple is that each of them should constantly make du'aa to Allaah I to strengthen their love. The internal factor is the fundamental aspect of du'aa both the husband and the wife should make with open and sincere hearts.

When making du'aa for your husband, think that he is after all the servant of Allaah I and a member of Rasulullaah ρ's Ummah. If he is an ill-tempered man, he will only make life miserable for another woman if you leave him. However, if you makes du'aa to Allaah I, Allaah I will transform him into a gentle and loving man. After performing at least two Rakaahs Tahajjud salaah, cry to Allaah I to guide your husband and the husband of every Muslim woman. "O My Allaah! O My Allaah! O My Allaah! O My Allaah! O My Allaah!
After making this du'aa, make du'aa for your husband, your children, your family and for all the Muslims in the world.

[TRANSLATION: O Allaah! Make us both (husband and wife) people who hearken to Your commands and who obey You. Ten Practices of Rasulullaah ρ

Rasulullaah ρ was a mercy to both men and women. By implementing the Sunnah practices of Rasulullaah ρ, a person's home will be filled with Allaah's mercy. It is therefore necessary for every woman to learn about the Sunnah practices of Rasulullaah ρ and apply these to her life. By doing this, she will also attain the pleasure of Allaah I.

1. You should also teach these du'aas to your children and younger brothers and sisters. Insha Allaah by reciting all these du'aas, theirs and your tongues will remain pure because they are uttering the same words that the tongue of Rasulullaah ρ spoke.
   When you hear another woman sneezing, recite "Yar Hamu Killaah. If a Mahram sneezes, recite "Yar Hamu Kallaah".
2. It was the practice of Rasulullaah ρ to resort to salaah whenever he experienced any difficulty. You may say, "O Allaah! I beseech You to cure my child."

In the same manner, if there is a shortage of anything in the home, first perform two Rakaahs salaah and make du'aa to Allaah I before asking your husband. Then recite:

a hundred times or even more if you can. Thereafter, make du'aa to Allaah I and ask Him for whatever you need.

Rasulullaah ρ replied by saying, 'Wa Alaykumus Salaam wa Rahmatullaah'.
We should therefore add extra words of du'aa to our greeting as Rasulullaah ρ did.

You can well imagine that if a mother greets her children with these words several times, daily the children will be enveloped in Allaah's mercy and Shaytaan will have no avenue to them.

Adults should greet children first so that children may learn the habit of greeting. In addition to merely expressing love, the Salaam is a du'aa for the person, invoking Allaah's safety from all calamities and difficulties. It is the Dhikr of Allaah I.
It reminds other of Allaah I.
[Bukhari and Muslim]

Hadhrat Anu Umaamah τ narrates that Rasulullaah ρ said, "Indeed, the nearest people to Allaah I are they who are the first to greet." Hadhrat Abdullaah bin Mas'ood τ reports from Rasulullaah ρ that the word "Salaam" is one of Allaah's names, which He has sent to earth. Whenever a person comes to a gathering and greets the people there with Salaam, his status is extremely exalted in Allaah's estimation because he has reminded them of Allaah I. Attribute every occurrence to Allaah I, saying that it happened by the will of Allaah I. If a person falls ill, say that the illness is from Allaah I without attributing it to the heat, cold, food, etc. A woman who has trust in Allaah I would rather console him by saying that everything happens by Allaah's command and that they should be patient and hope for reward from Allaah I.

Hadhrat Bayazeed Bistaami (A.R) was a great saint. Allaah I added great taste to the food I cooked." This lesson should be emphasised to your children as well. The child will remain pleased with whatever Allaah I decides and will be able to exercise patience whenever a difficulty arrives.

If a person truly loves Allaah I and His Rasul ρ, she will practise every injunction of the Shari'ah and steer clear of incurring their wrath, which will ultimately destroy her life in this world as well as her life in the Aakhirah.

[Muslim]

[TRANSLATION: "O Allaah, the Rabb of this perfect call and the Rabb of the forthcoming salaah! [TRANSLATION: "O Allaah! For men, this physical reply to the Adhaan entails proceeding to the Masjid for salaah and for women, it entails performing salaah after the Adhaan. Simplicity is an extremely important Sunnah of Rasulullaah ρ. You will therefore earn this great reward if you inculcate simplicity in your life. When a woman resolves to lead a life of simplicity, the rest of the family will quickly follow suit. It is therefore necessary for women to adopt simplicity in their lives to alleviate the burden on their husbands. Whatever you spend on your house should be well within your husband's budget. Remember that Allaah's pleasure should have precedence over the pleasure of everyone else.

Rasulullaah ρ himself married and he also got his daughters married. Rasulullaah ρ Marries and Hosts a Waleema Function While on Journey

During one of his journeys, Rasulullaah ρ married Hadhrat Safiyya (R.A). To celebrate the occasion, Rasulullaah ρ hosted a Waleema. Do not be disturbed if the world is upset with you

If You are not mine (O Allaah) then nothing is mine

Oppressive Mothers-in-Law

If every woman resolved that she would be kind and gentle when dealing with the innocent lady who will soon be living in her home as her daughter-in-law, life would become pleasant and comfortable for many people. It is not incorrect to assert that an oppressive mother-in-law together with her daughters who serve as accomplices are among the greatest elements that discourage men and women from marrying. They actively destroy marriages and cause many men to perpetrate major sins. It is unfortunate that if a man does not host an elaborate wedding function for his daughter, she will have to hear taunts and insults from her mother-in-law for the rest of her life. Mothers-in-law who behave in this manner should beware of Allaah I's punishment. It has often been noticed that mothers-in-law who have oppressed their daughters-in-law suffer debilitating diseases in the lives. May Allaah I save us all from such diseases. Problems between mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law are extremely common nowadays because mothers-in-law do not treat their daughters-in-law like their own daughters and daughters-in-law do not treat their mothers-in-law like their own mothers. It is therefore best for a mother-in-law and a daughter-in-law to live separately. According to the explicit instruction of Rasulullaah ρ, the bride is not obliged to bring anything to her husband's home, but it the duty of the husband to provide dowry and, of course, the other household necessities. Unfortunately, many of today's mothers-in-law will terrorise their daughters-in-law if they fail to provide something for the house. While the groom requires only a wife who is obedient, understanding, loving, attractive and compassionate, his mother, sisters and sisters-in-law also want something from the marriage. An excellent wife is one who can ably serve her husband and her in-laws and who can raise her children as good Muslims. May Allaah I assist those who will take the initiative to promote the Sunnah of Rasulullaah ρ so that people can breathe more easily. Allaah I has given men superiority over women because they have the honour of spending the wealth on women. When a marriage takes place, the woman has no financial responsibility whatsoever. Allaah I says in the Qur'aan, ***"Men are the guardians of women because of the virtue Allaah has bestowed some of you over others and because of the wealth that men spend (on women)."***[16] Together with providing food and accommodation for his wife, the husband is obliged to provide all the necessities that his wife requires. If the "Jahez" was something important in the Shari'ah, Rasulullaah ρ would have certainly given it to all his four daughters. It should also be borne in mind that Hadhrat Ali τ was in the care of Rasulullaah ρ and it was therefore Rasulullaah ρ's duty to see to the marriage and the home of his ward.

Another lesson that we should learn from this incident is that Rasulullaah ρ neither gave anything for his son-in-law nor did Hadhrat Ali τ ask Rasulullaah ρ for anything. This was the Sunnah practice of Rasulullaah ρ. A woman who asks her son's future in-law to get things for her daughters, for her other sons,

[16] Surah Nisaa (Surah 4), verse 34.

<u>for her daughters-in-law and for other members of the family really does not deserve the honourable title of mother which forms part of her description as a mother-in-law. Such people can only be those whose hearts are bereft of fear for Allaah I. May Allaah I guide all mothers-in-law to understand the true nature of the Shari'ah. Feeding the Bride's In-laws</u>

No hadith mentions anything about Rasulullaah ρ feeding the families of any of his sons-in-law. The manner in which Rasulullaah ρ married the queen of Jannah Hadhrat Faatima (R.A) is a lesson for the world. Hadhrat Ummu Salma (R.A) and Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) both report that Rasulullaah ρ asked the two of them to prepare Hadhrat Faatima (R.A) and take her to her husband Hadhrat Ali τ. One should bear in mind that if Rasulullaah ρ wanted to host an elaborate wedding ceremony for his youngest daughter, he could have easily done so. If women take the initiative of eradicating these customs from their lives, they can do so quite effectively and will earn tremendous rewards from Allaah I.

The Rights Wives Owe to their Husbands

Never neglect serving him and always do things that please him if these do not violate the laws of the Shari'ah.

Never allow anyone to enter the house without your husband's permission.

Never speak to him disrespectfully.

If there was any better course to follow, then the pure daughter of Hadhrat Abu Bakr τ would have followed it. Blessed are the women who follow the sterling examples of Hadhrat Aa'isha (R.A) and Hadhrat Faatima (R.A). Blessed also are their husband and their fathers. Because the Ambiya (A.S) were the beloved of Allaah I, whoever follows in their footsteps must also become Allaah I's beloved.

It is a commitment to live your life with your spouse and it multiplies a person's status as a man or a woman. After marriage, a man earns the respectable status of being a husband and a father, while his wife is the queen of her home. The Du'aa for a Married Couple

"O Allaah! O Allaah! Unite their hearts with true love as You had united the hearts of their ancestors Hadhrat Aadam υ and Hadhrat Hawwa (R.A).

O Allaah! O Allaah! O Allaah! O Allaah! O Allaah! **Reply Clearly**

Many domestic disputes will be effectively averted if women learnt to express themselves clearly and convincingly. We shall present a few guidelines for your benefit that will Insha Allaah assist you in a great deal when conversing with your husband and others as well.

Whatever the case, you should never wait for your husband to ask you about developments before addressing the problem. May Allaah I guide all Muslim women to always do what is correct. Have Mercy on Your Children

A common failing among many women is that they do not respond immediately when their husbands call for them. If a woman wants to earn the pleasure and du'aas of her husband, she should respond as soon as he calls for her. If you wish to attain your husband's undying love, you will have to ensure that your husband's heart is never tainted with any ill-feelings towards you. You should never give him the opportunity to say that your mother had not taught you well enough or that you cannot compare with the wives of his friends or other women. The child's capabilities will also be stifled because she will be living with a mother who is constantly scared of her mother-in-law or sisters-in-law.

The vision of the father slapping the mother and the sound of the mother's sobbing are always in the child's mind. Such a child can never match the confident and happy children in her class.

Do not give your husband the opportunity to get angry with you. May Allaah I guide all Muslim women to be able to run their homes efficiently without giving anyone an excuse to point a finger at them.

An Estranged Wife's Letter to her Husband

the men and women entering there were exuberant and carefree. When I asked him how I could get one, he replied, "For Muslim men, their permit is the pleasure of their parents and for Muslim women it is the pleasure of their husbands. A married woman has to carry the permit of her husband's pleasure." Despondent, I stared with envy at all the women entering without reckoning. Whereas other women preferred living under their husband's authority, I could not even bear the thought of it. My soul would emerge from my body if I ever heard talk of a woman being subservient to her husband. The times when women served men have passed by. "If I were to command anyone to prostrate to another (human), I would have certainly commanded a wife to prostrate to her husband."

"The angels curse the wife who does not respond when her husband calls her to bed and he spends the night angry with her.

Because the time of Tahajjud is a time when du'aas are accepted, I prayed to Allaah I to forgive me.

O my beloved husband! Your loving wife

The Husband's Reply

No sooner had the husband read his wife's letter when he replied:

My beloved wife

Allaah is witness to the fact that my heart is filled with love for you. With the grace of Allaah I, you have a pious father who will assure you that I have no other woman besides you in my heart. To keep Allaah I pleased, we should also avoid weddings and other functions where the laws of Allaah I are violated.

Convey my love and kisses to the children.

It is a fact that when a woman practises Islaam and treats her husband well, she will become a shining beacon for others to follow. Every woman should treat her husband as a new bride would and she should always be prepared to make sacrifices for him. An obedient wife will capture her husband's heart, thereby having her wishes addressed without even asking. Every wife should therefore buy gifts for her husband. Exchanging gifts develops love and removes malice from the heart.

My final advice is that a wife should ensure that all her domestic chores are complete before her husband returns home from work. It is because many women are negligent of this that they have problems with their husbands."
If your answer is yes, give yourself five points. Are you awake before your husband and children every morning, encouraging the boys to proceed to the Masjid for the Fajr salaah?

May Allaah I use you for the service of His Deen", etc? (Remember that you should never curse your children because this will deprive them of honour and status in people's eyes).

Do you abstain from backbiting and lying about your sisters-in-law (husband's brothers' wives) to earn nearness to your mother-in-law and your other sisters-in-law (your husband's sisters)? (A) Do you respond to your husband's sexual advances?

(B) Do you know who curses the woman who refuses to fulfil her husband's sexual desires without good reason?

If you have done well, make du'aa to Allaah I to keep you steadfast and always improving. Also make du'aa to Allaah I to create such sterling qualities in all Muslim wives. Also make sincere du'aa to Allaah I to assist you with this and to make you among the fortunate women about whom Rasulullaah ρ gave the glad tidings of entering Jannah.

A Good Husband's Parting Words to his Wife

Allaah I is your most Honoured and Esteemed Protector. You should be happy and thankful to Allaah I that your husband has sacrificed his love for you for the love of Allaah I.

Your Jihaad is to give precedence to your love for Allaah I over other desires and over your love for everything else. Together with your love for your husband, you should also develop your love for Him.

Remember that you should never make du'aa for your husband to return from Jihaad safely to your lap because this would be selfish. Allaah I will not be pleased with this. Rather make du'aa that Allaah I should accept your husband's efforts in Jihaad. Martyrdom is not death but life, an everlasting life!

Insha Allaah, we shall meet in Jannah and shall never be again separated.

A Good Wife's Final Words to Her Husband

When writing her final bequest to her husband, a wife should add the following:

Some Beneficial books for Women to Read

The books mentioned below are extremely beneficial for all women. We urge all women to study them carefully and to encourage other women to read them as well.

By studying this book, a woman will be able to master many injunctions of Deen and will be able to lead her life correctly in a manner pleasing to Allaah I. **A Gift to (Muslim) Women:** This comprehensive book is worth reading several times over. Regular recitation of this book will quickly expel love for this world from a person's heart. **The Upbringing of Children/The Bringing up of Children:** These books are a must for every parent. Pray to Allaah I to guide them all to lead their lives as Allaah I and His Rasul ρ have instructed. It is now your responsibility to raise your children as mentioned in this book and to imbibe the qualities of a good woman in their friends and family. After reading this book, recite the following du'aa. [TRANSLATION: O Allaah!